

Eastern Illinois University

## The Keep

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The Post Amerikan (1972-2004)

The Post Amerikan Project

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7-1985

## Volume 14, Number 4

Post Amerikan

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"Underground Barfly" debut; fast food; leaky landlord

Bloomington - Normal

25¢

# POST AMERIKAN

Vol.14 No.4  
July-Aug.  
1985



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# POST AMERIKAN

Volume 14, No. 4 July-August 1985

## About us

The Post Amerikan is an independent community newspaper providing information and analysis that is screened out of or downplayed by establishment news sources. We are a non-profit, worker-run collective that exists as an alternative to the corporate media. Decisions are made collectively by staff members at our regular meetings.

We put out nine issues a year. Staff members take turns as "coordinator." All writing, typing, editing, photography, graphics, pasteup, and distribution are done on a volunteer basis. You are invited to volunteer your talents.

Most of our material and inspiration for material comes from the community. The Post Amerikan welcomes stories, graphics, photos, and news tips from our readers. If you'd like to join us call 828-7232 and leave a message on our answering machine. We will get back to you as soon as we can.

We like to print your letters. Try to limit yourself to the equivalent of two double-spaced typewritten pages. If you write a short, abusive letter, it's likely to get in print. Long, abusive letters, however, are not likely to get printed. Long, brilliantly written, non-abusive letters may, if we see fit, be printed as articles. Be sure to tell us if you don't want your letters printed.

An alternative newspaper depends very directly on a community of concerned people for existence. We believe that it is very important to keep a paper like this around. If you think so too, then support us through contributions and by letting our advertisers know you saw their ads in the Post Amerikan.

## In this issue

Page	
3	LANDLORD'S PROMISES AS LEAKY AS HIS ROOF Landlord sues tenant for his own screw-ups
4-5	STATE'S PANTY RAID IS A BLOOMER DCI, State's Attorney Dozier & Pantagraph try probe, go limp
6-7	HOPE, BONES, BREEDERS, BITS!*?! Local music scene reviewed
8-9	WHAT'S NEW IN FAST FOODS? Eleven teaspoons of butter in every Hardee's Bacon Cheeseburger
10-11	SHUT DOWN THE ARSENAL People plan to shut down the war machine in the Quad Cities
12-13	CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE: PROTESTING CONTRA AID B-N protsters get one-block ride in paddy wagon
14-15	WITNESS FOR PEACE DOCUMENTS CONTRA TACTICS U. S. citizens witness death and destruction in Nicaragua
16-17	U. S. PRESS IGNORES EL SALVADOR AIR WAR The headline says it all
20	VASECTOMY PAYS OFF Post reader has better vasectomy experience
21	ABORTION: A WOMAN'S POINT OF VIEW More support for the right to choose
22	ACLU JOINS GAYS IN STRUGGLE FOR EQUALITY ACLU says sodomy laws pain in the ass
23	PANTAGRAPH "MISSES" THE MARK Crisis workers' ability judged by sexist standards
24	THE UNDERGROUND BARFLY Introducing Stella and Blanche as they cruise the local bar scene
	Classyfrieds.....18-19
	My Sister TPR.....4-5
	Community News.....18-19
	Cable Comix.....6-7

## Post Sellers

### BLOOMINGTON

Amtrack station, 1200 W. Front  
The Back Porch, 402½ N. Main  
Bloomington Public Library (in front)  
Bus Depot, 533 N. East  
Common Ground, 516 N. Main  
Front and Center Building  
Law and Justice Center, W. Front  
Lee Street (100 N.)  
Main and Miller streets  
Medusa's Adult World, 420 N. Madison  
Mike's Market, 1013 N. Park  
Mr. Donut, 1310 E. Empire  
Nierstheimer Drugs, 1302 N. Main  
Pantagraph (front of building),  
301 W. Washington  
The Park Store, Wood & Allin  
People's Drugs, Oakland & Morrissey  
Red Fox, 918 W. Market  
Susie's Cafe, 602 N. Main  
U.S. Post Office, 1511 E. Empire  
(at exit)  
U.S. Post Office, Center & Monroe  
Wash House, 609 N. Clinton  
Washington and Clinton streets

### NORMAL

Blue Dahlia Bookstore, 124 E. Beaufort  
ISU University Union, 2nd floor  
ISU University Union, parking lot  
entrance  
The Gallery, 111 E. Beaufort (in front)  
Midstate Truck Plaza, U.S. 51 north  
Mother Murphy's, 111½ North St.  
North & Broadway, southeast corner  
Stan's Super Valu, 310 S. Main  
Upper Cut, 318 Kingsley  
White Hen Pantry, 207 Broadway  
(in front)

## Good numbers

Alcoholics Anonymous.....828-5049  
American Civil Liberties Union.663-6065  
Clare House (Catholic Workers).828-4035  
Community for Social Action....452-4867  
Connection House.....829-5711  
Countering Domestic Violence...827-4005  
Dept. Children/Family Services.828-0022  
Draft Counseling.....452-5046  
Gay/Lesbian Info. Line.....829-2719  
HELP (transportation for senior  
citizens, handicapped).....828-8301  
Ill. Dept. of Public Aid.....827-4621  
Ill. Lawyer Referral.....800-252-8916  
Kaleidoscope.....828-7346  
Metropolitan Comm. Church.....829-2719  
McLean Co. Health Dept.....454-1161  
Mid Central Community Action...829-0691  
Mobile Meals.....828-8301  
McLean Co. Center for Human  
Services.....827-5351  
National Health Care Services  
(abortion assistance,Peoria)691-9073  
Nuclear Freeze Coalition.....828-4195  
Occupational Development Center828-7324  
Operation Recycle.....829-0691  
Parents Anonymous.....827-4005  
PATH (Personal Assistance Telephone  
Help).....827-4005  
Or.....800-322-5015  
Phone Friends.....827-4008  
Planned Parenthood....medical.827-4014  
bus/couns/educ.....827-4368  
Post Amerikan.....828-7232  
Prairie State Legal Service....827-5021  
Prairie Alliance.....828-8249  
Project Oz.....827-0377  
Rape Crisis Center.....827-4005  
Sunnyside Neighborhood Centèr..827-5428  
TeleCare (senior citizens).....828-8301  
Unemployment comp/job service..827-6237  
United Farmworkers support....452-5046  
UPIC.....827-4026

The next deadline for submitting Post material is September 5. The next issue is one of the nine per year, down from ten per year. For more information on this change, see "Post calms down" on pages 6 and 7.

## Thanks

This issue is in your hands thanks to Deborah, Susie, Chris, Laurie H., Diana, Bobby, Tim, Sherrin, Laurie D., Mark, Dave, Melissa, J.T., Bumper, Ralph, Rich, Doug, Judy, Chuck, and Sue (co-ordinator)--and probably others we forgot to mention.

Special and continuing thanks to all those who responded to our plea for funds. Your donations and letters of support are greatly appreciated.

## Moving?

When you move, be sure to send us your new address so your subscription gets to you. Your Post Amerikan will not be forwarded (it's like junk mail--no kidding!). Fill out this handy form with your new address and return it to us, P. O. Box 3452, Bloomington, IL 61702.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City/state/zip \_\_\_\_\_

# Landlord's promises as leaky as his roof

Never move into an apartment on April first. Kathy and Dennis did, in 1984, to their regret. They learned another, more practical lesson from their experience, though . . . . Never rent from Larry Pritts.

They first met Pritts in March when they went to look at an upstairs apartment he had for rent. Kathy said he struck her as "slimy"--well-capped teeth, a dark late-summer tan in March (he owns tanning salons), and wearing snakeskin boots. The apartment wasn't in bad shape, though, and Kathy and Dennis both needed a place immediately.

The couple pointed out some problems to Pritts, including a broken stair railing, a stairway light switch with a short, and a front door lock that the key wouldn't open. Larry Pritts verbally contracted to fix all of these things before Kathy and Dennis moved in.

## Flood

Somewhat more disturbing was a large water stain on the bathroom carpet and plaster near the tub. Pritts claimed that the former tenants (his son and daughter-in-law) had let the tub overflow. He insisted that there were no leakage problems.

Within the first month, the bathroom floor flooded. Kathy said ten to twelve gallons of water were standing on the floor. It was raining that day, but Dennis had been bathing, so thinking he had let the tub overflow, Kathy just cleaned up the water and forgot about it.

A week later it rained again. The bathroom flooded again. Kathy called the landlord to get a plumber. Three days later, the plumber who put in the three-year-old system showed up. Before he even looked at the leak, he said, "It's not our fault." He then looked at the now-dry bathroom and told Kathy and Dennis to call him if it happened again so he could see it wet.

## Tenant detectives

Kathy and Dennis decided to investigate for themselves, since Pritts and Co. seemed so disinclined to do so. They found a crawlspace behind the bathtub that went up to the roof. The wood, plaster, and dry wall in

plumbing. Pritts refused to listen to the description of the crawlspace, and said there was nothing wrong with his roof.

Meanwhile, Pritts had broken, without notice, several appointments to fix the railing, the light switch, and the front door lock, leaving Kathy waiting around for him all day. The broken items never did get fixed.

## New neighbors

In February, a new tenant moved in downstairs from Kathy and Dennis--a children's clothing consignment shop. The owner was very cool to both Kathy and Dennis, despite a number of friendly overtures on both their parts. Kathy discovered that the landlord had told the woman what horrible people her new upstairs

Dennis a bill for \$300 for damage to stock. When Kathy asked the owner about it, the woman replied that Larry Pritts had told her that Kathy and Dennis were responsible for all leaks from upstairs. Pritts' slander campaign against Kathy and Dennis made it harder for the owner of the store to check the culpability of her neighbors, and made it easy for Pritts to pass off the problems onto Kathy and Dennis.

The store went out of business within three months of opening, and the owner lost her deposit, although she did major renovations on the premises. Kathy conjectures that the business closed because the people who made her products didn't want to leave them in a store where water damage was such a regular occurrence.

## Lawsuit

Meanwhile, Kathy had been withholding rent pending the repairs promised. Pritts filed eviction papers and a damage lawsuit for \$1300. Among the damages listed were the now infamous 5' x 6' bathroom carpet, for which he wanted approximately \$125; cleaning charges, approximately \$85, to clean a refrigerator Kathy had already cleaned; about \$55 to replace a 16" x 22" pane of glass that Dennis had already replaced; the \$50 plumbing bills; and the \$500 rent Kathy had withheld until things were fixed.

The day they moved, Kathy and Dennis cleaned the whole apartment--vacuuming, scrubbing down the kitchen, and cleaning the bathroom carpet. While they were cleaning, the landlord came in to change the locks, asked them when they were going to be done, and harassed them about rent again. Kathy told him they would discuss it in court.

In court, Pritts refused to settle or drop his suit, insisting he was in the right and his roof was in fine shape, although Kathy and Dennis had two witnesses of the roof leak and the report from Urban Development to the contrary.

## Go home

The judge told Pritts four separate times to go home and work this out out of court. Pritts refused, sticking to his over-flowing bathtub story.

Eventually, Pritts was forced to drop his case. Kathy and Dennis paid their lawyer's fees, Larry Pritts paid court costs and his lawyer's fees and dropped all damages. Pritts still claimed he had been wronged and that the damage was due to Kathy and Dennis having let their tub overflow.

According to one source, Larry Pritts has several other buildings under investigation by the Housing Authority. No doubt he is behaving as ethically toward those tenants as he did toward Kathy and Dennis and the owner of the consignment shop below them.

Kathy and Dennis said to tell you--never move into a place on April 1st.

And stay away from Larry Pritts' apartments.

--Chris M.



neighbors were, that she should avoid them at all costs, and that problems with the apartment were Kathy and Dennis' fault.

During one rainy day, Kathy went downstairs to drop off the previous tenant's mail in a pre-arranged place. While downstairs, she saw water coming from the ceiling. She called Dennis and two friends, one of whom was the owner of a construction company in town, to witness the drip, which was obviously coming from the leak above the crawlspace. These witnesses turned out to be invaluable to the final outcome.

## Urban Development

After yet another rain/flood cycle, Kathy finally called the Bloomington Department of Urban Development. After an inspection, Juanita Reese, Housing Inspector of Urban Development, told Kathy that the flashing around the vent above the crawlspace was exposed and the tar was absent in places on the east side of the vent, causing the roof to leak whenever the rain came from the east or northeast, sending water behind and under the bathtub.

Reese would not let Kathy see the letter sent to Larry Pritts, however, saying that it was private business between the landlord and Urban Development.

Despite the letter from Urban Development, the next time there was a leak, Kathy and Dennis were called at work at 10:30 pm by the landlord's secretary and told to turn off their water. The store downstairs was flooding. Although they were angry at being bothered at work, Dennis went home to check. The water was not on. The floor, however, was soaked.

## More bills

The store downstairs sent Kathy and



the crawlspace showed considerable water damage. Dennis, a roofer, said it looked like water was coming in from a vent in the roof above the crawlspace.

Two months later it rained, and the bathroom flooded once again.

The plumber came in and caulked the bathtub fixtures.

The landlord sent Kathy and Dennis a bill for about \$50 for the two plumber's visits, insisting the leak was because they'd damaged the





Petticoat probe

## Sexy Lingerie

# State's panty raid is a bloomer

If anyone got caught with their pants down in the recent Sexy Lingerie bust, it was the State's Attorney, the Division of Criminal Investigation, and the Pantagraph. A rigged bust for pandering; a lying, coercive investigation; and incomplete, irresponsible newspaper coverage combined to lead citizens to believe that Bloomington is rife with prostitution, with the Sexy Lingerie business at its center.

The night manager of the business was arrested on May 30, "after arrangements were made for Division of Criminal Investigation agents to meet a prostitute at the business," according to the Pantagraph.

The next day, the newspaper elaborated a bit more, saying the bust came "after a policeman working undercover spoke with her, arranging for a party at which prostitution was planned with other employees of the business."

Ms. Grant, the night manager, was charged with pandering, which is "the act of arranging a situation in which prostitution may occur."

She didn't do it.

Employees of Sexy Lingerie called the Post Amerikan and agreed to interviews about the incident and its aftermath.

Their story is appreciably different from the Pantagraph's. That newspaper never attempted to get their side of the story, although it allowed Dozier to continually refer to the employees as "prostitutes." (No one was even charged with prostitution.)

Sexy Lingerie sponsors two things: private sessions, in which a client gets to watch an employee model the

revealing lingerie that's for sale; and lingerie parties, in which a group of men contract for two or three employees to come model the goods at a private party. These, say employees, are usually bachelor parties, where the models show and sell lingerie, flirt and dance with the men, accept tips--but don't perform sex acts for pay. The parties are kind of a cross between holding a Tupperware party and hiring a Fast Freddy's dancer.

Outside of work, the women behave however they wish. If they want to arrange sex for pay, it's strictly on their own. (The ones I talked to had husbands or boyfriends who would hit the ceiling if the women were involved in paid sex.)

If a cocktail waitress at a bar turned tricks on the side, could the DCI bust the bartender for pandering? Could Dozier call all the other cocktail waitresses prostitutes? In print?

According to Lindsey, a Sexy Lingerie employee, on Wednesday the 29th, seven undercover agents held a party at the Holiday Inn with two women who they hired for sex acts. The women said they made \$460 each off of giving blow jobs.

Unfortunately, the women also were employees of Sexy Lingerie. The men said they wanted to have another party the next night, but with one more woman, suggesting Lacey (Grant) the night manager at Sexy Lingerie. The women said to go talk to Lacey at her job the next night.

At about six on Thursday, the agent came in to ask Lacey to arrange a "going away party" with herself and the two women from the previous night as models. Lacey had no idea what kind of party the other two had done the night before, so she agreed to schedule it. She thought it was a routine lingerie party.

"Call up \_\_\_\_\_ (one of the other women) and make sure she's going to be there," the agent said.

Lacey made the phone call and was put under arrest.

"I saw the man set up the party himself. I was there," Lindsey says. "Lacey never would have gone along if she knew what was going on. At one point he asked, 'Will the tipping be the same?' and Lacey just said yes. She didn't know he meant paying for sex."

She added, "If those guys call that Wednesday party 'investigation,' I'm pissed. Taxpayers are paying for police officers to go get blow jobs."

--Phoebe Caulfield



## Dozier vs. Sexy Lingerie: Is there room in

After DCI's pandering frame-up at Sexy Lingerie, State's Attorney Ron Dozier threw the town into a tizzy by offering immunity from prosecution to clients, employees, and ex-employees of Sexy Lingerie if they came forward to spill the beans about the operation before June 25. He told the Pantagraph that he had seized "boxes and boxes" of records during the Sexy Lingerie bust (and the bust of Imperial Escort Service the same night).

In Pantagraph stories from the 13th to the 25th, these "boxes and boxes" of threatening records repeatedly came up, hounding nearly 30 people into contacting the State's Attorney to inform on themselves and each other--and causing guilty, sleepless nights for many others.

Dozier said it would "take weeks for us to match prostitutes and clients," and gave ever-growing estimates of the numbers of people "targeted by the probe" who would receive subpoenas.

The "boxes and boxes" cause giggles at Sexy Lingerie, where the employees know exactly what the agents seized: one briefcase, containing one piece of paper listing the employees' real names and numbers and several blank contracts. That's it. There aren't even that many employees.

Dozier made it clear that his goal was "shutting the business down."

Sheree Wilson-Arteman, a Sexy Lingerie employee who deals with the business's public relations, decided that's just what he wasn't going to do.

She called a meeting of the employees and said, "We're either going to get railroaded or fight. Let's fight."

In a Post Amerikan interview, she said, "I had to call Dozier's bluff. I knew he didn't have the cards."

First she called WJBC's talkshow Problems and Solutions, frequently the outlet for county conservatism, and defended Sexy Lingerie in a debate with Dozier.

"I said, 'If you've got the evidence, here I am. Come out and get me.'"

Then she and the other women organized an open house for June 15, inviting anyone to come have cookies and punch and look over Sexy Lingerie so they could see what it really was. Invitations were hand-delivered to Ron Dozier and Terry Williams (president of Citizens for Decency).

"That was something," she laughed. "We took the invitations during our lunch hour, and within ten minutes after we walked back into work, the Pantagraph was suddenly there, listening to us for the first time."

This wise publicity move got Sexy Lingerie's point of view aired on TV (Channel 3 had almost a half hour on it), less biased coverage in the Pantagraph, and more time on WJBC. It also attracted 25 people to the open house, while an embarrassed Terry Williams stood in the parking lot and Ron Dozier stupidly refused to go,



# Repercussions of official moralism: it ain't pretty being called easy

Ron Dozier's moralistic attack on Sexy Lingerie caused some changes around there. Several good, regular customers stopped frequenting the place, "at least for a while," said public relations manager Sheree Wilson-Arteman. "Now they're slowly coming back, as they realize that Dozier hasn't got big files on them."

Both Wilson-Arteman and another employee, Lindsey, told me that there's been a change of clients since the uproar--a change for the worse.

"These guys believe it's a whorehouse," said Lindsey. "They give us a lot more trouble. We just have to act like we're not scared of them and tell them to get out. Just keep telling them, and don't act scared, even if we're scared to death. Don't show it."

Wilson-Arteman said, "Up until the stink, there was not much problem with sexual harassment. The customers knew

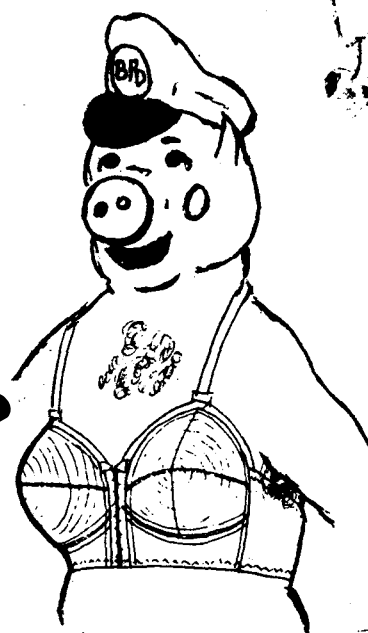
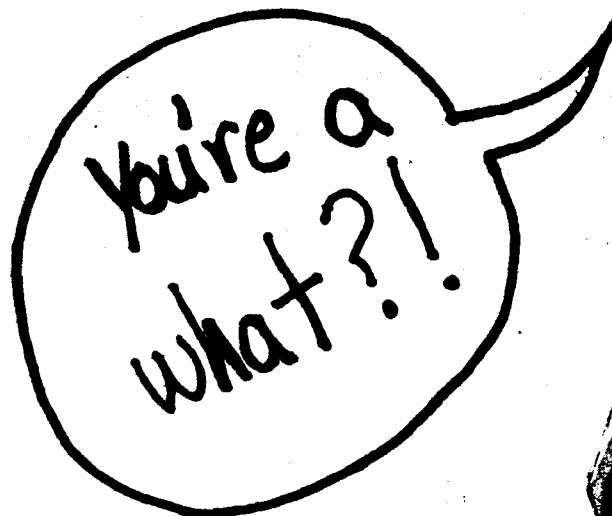
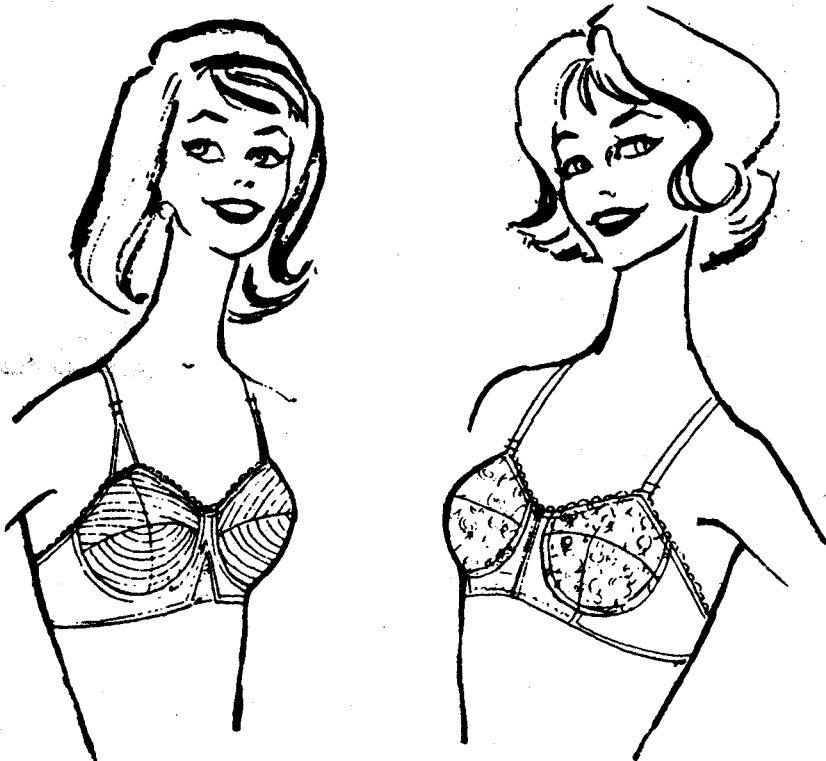
what they could and couldn't do, or they'd cooperate when we told them. Now...well, there are more problems."

On the positive side, Wilson-Arteman cites instances of "undercover public support." Sexy Lingerie has benefited from "lots of private parties set up by sympathetic people" just to help the business in troubled times.

Sexy Lingerie had been advertising in the Pantagraph's classified section since the business opened. But when they called to place an ad in mid-July, Howard Duvall, head of classified, said, "We won't take your advertising." When Lindsey asked him why, he said, "I don't have to give you a reason."

The Penny Saver, which has consistently refused Sexy Lingerie's ads, then agreed to take one. Could this be...Underwear Wars?

--Phoebe Caulfield



## this town for both of them?

saying, "I already know what's going on there."

Wilson-Arteman deplored the scare tactics Dozier was using; she seems protective toward Sexy Lingerie's customers. "We're talking about married men; we're talking about men high in the community; we're talking Catholics!" she said. "Confession should have been lined up around the block every week."

She insists on the legitimacy of the business. "Yes, we are sexually oriented. Not physical, though, but visual. Men look at women's bodies at the Art Institute. Who knows what they're thinking?"... "We even sell a lot of lingerie."

Although Dozier claimed that the probe had identified 150 people to interview, by June 26 his claims about copious records had weakened considerably. He said "some of the people were identified from records seized from Sexy Lingerie" and that an appointment calendar from Imperial Escort named some names.

So, what was in all those "boxes and boxes"?

Crotchless panties?

--Phoebe Caulfield



## Rape Crisis Center of McLean County

WE'RE A NON-PROFIT VOLUNTEER GROUP WHOSE MAIN PURPOSE IS TO OFFER ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT TO VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT AND THEIR FRIENDS AND FAMILIES.

FEMALE VOLUNTEERS ANSWER OUR CALLS, BUT BOTH MALE AND FEMALE VOLUNTEERS ARE AVAILABLE FOR CRISIS ASSISTANCE, INFORMATION AND SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS.

If you want to talk to one of us

Call PATH 827-4005

and ask for the

## Rape Crisis Center

On the music scene

# Hope, Bones, Breeders, Bits!\*?!?

Bloomtown's own That Hope is an act difficult to categorize. It is very easy, however, to enjoy.

What these four guys do is basically take a standard popsong format and cram it to bursting with alarming dissonances, manic cross-rhythms, and

While Scott's drums and George's bass boomed out compelling beat-bars, Ed (high and smiling on the sheer joy of it) evoked more sounds from his hyper-electric guitar than old Red thought possible, alternately plucking and poking, knocking and stroking his Ex-

with the accent on the "manic."

By the time of That Hope's encore, an altered cover of ZZ Top's "La Grange," there wasn't a motionless toe in the place.

It was an exhilarating night, one that surely would have convinced the most skeptical that, although the country grows increasingly polluted, reactionary, and hypocritical by the day, and although people go without at home while tax dollars finance corporate foreign wars, there is yet, and in wondrous fullness right-here-in-Bloomtown, That Hope.

Currently, the group is recording a 12-inch in Champaign, a project certain to put Hope back into the discriminating music fan's collection.



Scott  
Drums

Dean  
Vocals

## THAT HOPE

George  
Bass

Edwin  
Guitar

schizoid, oft-inspired lyrics.

Once you listen to a tune put through That Hope's angst-mill, or witness their ironic (almost comic) delivery in person, music never seems quite the same.

The group's July 12 gig at the Gallery was a great case in point.

plorer into realms of feedback brilliance never-before-heard by post-Hendrix ears!

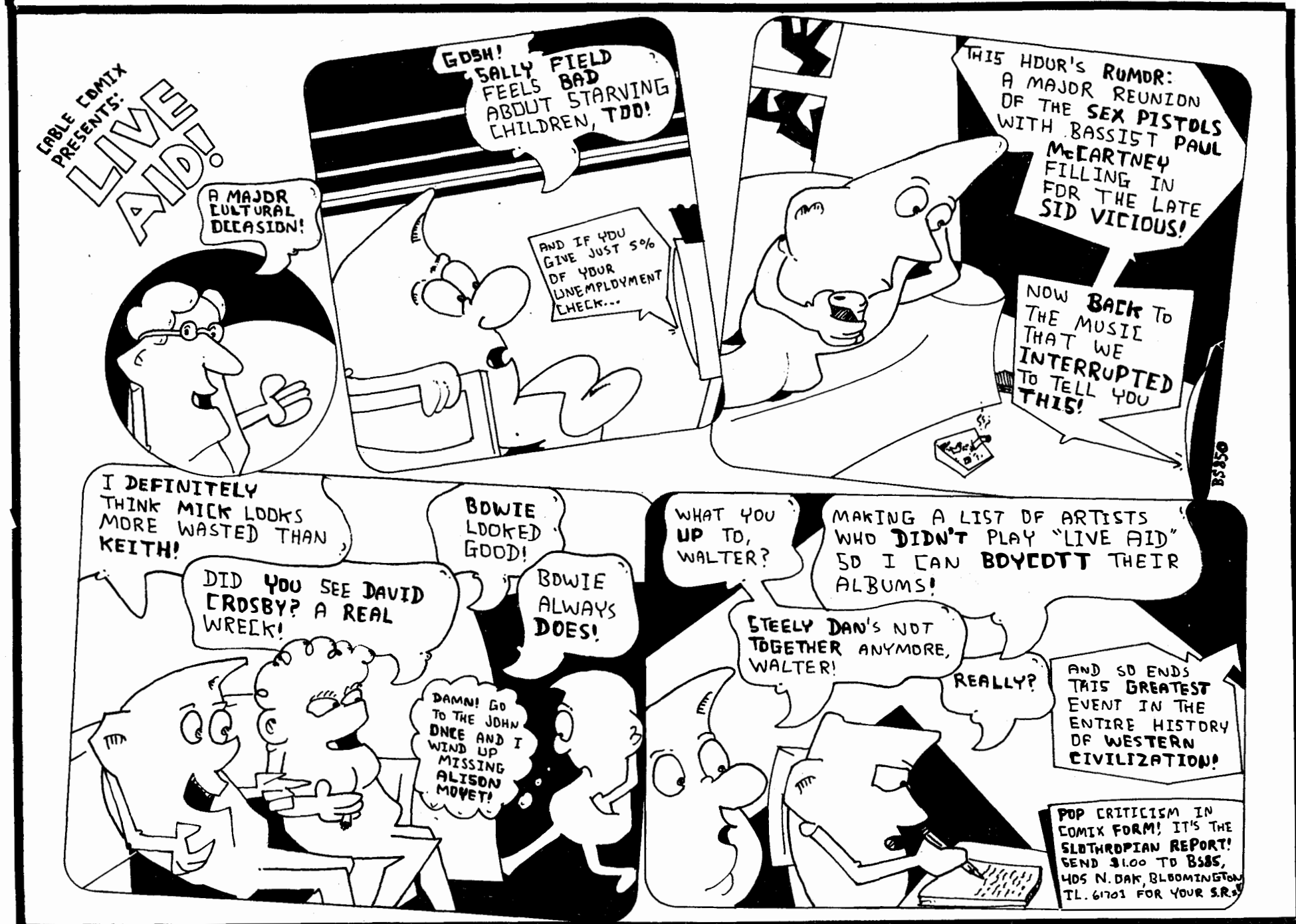
And fronting this frenetic activity, bouncing about like a cowboy on methamphetamine, was the irrepressible, adenoidal Dean, whose vocals can only be described as "manic-depressive,"

It was heavy-country mayhem went down when Charleston's Recreational Bones took the crowded floor on July 11, a no-cover Tuesday night at the Gallery.

The Bones are composed of two charged elements that clash and give tense urgency to their songs. There is: 1) singer/composer/harpist Gary Hicks' zoned-out vocal style--a curious, compelling un-intelligibility that soulfully outlines some very dark emotions; and 2) the three-piece band behind Hicks--Ward, Eric, and Ronnie of the legendary and defunct Chas-town punks, DUI, on (respectively) bass, guitar and drums.

Together, Hicks and the Bones strike a harsh musical juxtapose--between strict-time and slovenliness, form and raw content; the band is seasoned and tight, well-articulated behind Hicks' slurred wordings, scat improvs, and autistic head and arm movements.

A little like early Jason and





the Nashville Scorchers, Recreational Bones take authentic country sounds and inject rock; but where Jason's Warner/Percy rave is relatively minimal and pop, the Bones are a cohesive wall of fuzzed-up wail, much more metallic and despairing than Jason. It was chilling to witness their version of the old gospel hymn "I'll Fly Away," which was rapturous and hopeless at once.

The Recreational Bones are a combo not-to-be-missed, one that would probably appeal to headbangers, southern-rock, and punk aficionados alike. Look for them to return to the Gallery the third week in August.

It would be foolish of Spike not to have them back and exploit their vast appeal.

\* \* \*

In the same way that the breakup of England's Clash has brought forth wails of mourning from fans of music-with-political-integrity the world over, the imminent demise of Cham-Bana's Breeders will no doubt cause collective grief among the many fans they've made in the little-over-two years they've played the Midwest.

This young trio (none of whom is over 22) are about to part ways, with guitarist/angry young Andrew Van-Dusen off to NYC, virtuoso bassist Ted Purves set to do San Fran, and 17-year-old drummer Jonno Peltz headed for the Percussion Institute in Atlanta GA.

The Breeders became the undisputed downstate masters, in their time, of the post-punk sound. Influenced as

much by L.A.'s Minutemen as they were by the Clash or Minni-St. Paul's Replacements, this mighty trio packed their sets with all of the raving rage that is oppressed adolescence (have you been their age? you'll know then what gonads and growth-hormones can do to you).

The Breeders wouldn't sublimate their pubescent energy in sex--no. Watching them perform, you had the impression that all of their forces were channelled here, into the music. It was an enervating thing just to watch them.

For all of the Sturm und Drang in Breeder-music, it also had something distinctive among local punk bands: a social consciousness and conscience. In the title cut, for instance, of their only release (a 3-song 45 on Nova available at Champaign's Record Swap), there is this little morsel of un-subtle neighborliness:

"Walking down the city street  
People turn and stare at me.  
I don't have hostility  
I just smile and show my teeth."

It's too bad the band is splitting up, but at least the Breeders were, and gave to all who knew them a lesson in re-exitement.

\* \* \*

ISOLATED BITS OF LOCAL MUSICAL INTEREST:

\*\*Make sure you don't miss Minni-St. Paul's PJ and the Terrorists when they play the Gallery on Aug-

ust 25th! Those who've already witnessed a Specimens or Terrorist gig know--there's absolutely nobody on keyboards to compare with PJ. His band is tight like granite, having finely melded their big talents over the course of frequent coast-to-coast tours. This must-see act will be pushing their new LP on Scab Records, Territory (for info, 200 N. 3rd Ave., Minneapolis MN 55401). So get Terrorized this month! It's very topical.

\*\*What do members of the Bloomtown bands DiaTribe and Uptown Rulers do when their groups are no more? Start another one!

That's what bassist James McManus, drummer Ken Callahan, and guitarist/composer Mike Goodrich are doing, somewhere in the depths of Bloomtown-Normal, Red hasn't yet sussed where. Word is though, this band is gearing up for performance in the Fall '85 ISU production of Sam Shepherd's "Tooth of Crime," an excellent rock & roll play indeed! In style, it's hard to predict how the yet un-named and fugitive group will go, but knowing jazzman, un-earthly funkman James' proclivities, and also the folky blues and island stirrings in Goodrich, Red would say "Look Out!" A late August debut is planned.

\* \* \*

That's it for this month. See you at the scenes! --Red Newton

## Public Aid puts poor on wheels

Since July 1982 the Illinois Department of Public Aid has been offering assistance to its AFDC/WIN participants in obtaining an automobile.

Starla Storm, supervisor of IDPA's WIN Demonstration Program, told the Post Amerikan the assistance is similar to the on-going help with obtaining bus fare, uniforms, tools and other initial employment expenses.

In order to qualify for the program, an applicant must be participating in AFDC (Aid to Families with Dependent Children). WIN program participation is mandatory for an AFDC participant. A person obtaining food stamps or medical assistance is ineligible.

The IDPA requires an applicant for assistance in buying a car to verify (preferably in writing) that he/she has been offered a job. The applicant or place of employment must be away from established bus routes and/or not within walking distance of the potential job. An applicant working 2nd or 3rd shift would stand a better chance to qualify.

Storm emphasized that the IDPA is not "purchasing" cars. They are providing a portion of the "down payment." The limit is \$300.

Public Aid will need two different estimates for autos. Cars cannot be purchased from the applicant's relatives, and the applicant must be insured and have a valid driver's license.

IDPA will also assist AFDC participants in fixing cars, but only on "essential work."

Starla Storm's telephone number at Public Aid is 827-4621.

--Jeremy Timmens

## You can help the Post save \$\$\$ on supplies!

Here's what you do: If you're sitting around and you notice any extra supplies that are just getting in the way, send a little care package our way. We are not proud. We'll take anything: paper clips, paper, string, typewriter ribbons, staplers, staples, cellophane tape, tape dispensers, scissors, envelopes, stamps, typewriters, word processors, computer software, computers--you get the picture. Just get it to P.O. Box 3452, Bloomington. Do what you can. And thanks in advance.

## Post calms down

Gentle Reader,

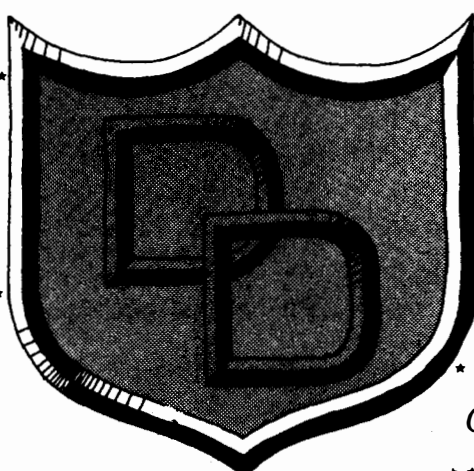
In these troubled times as Reagan-omics and aging have taken their toll on the care-free underground presses and hippies of yesteryear, your Post staff has once again gone to the trouble of revising our schedule in order to continue to bring you the best in investigative reporting, ranting and raving, cultural comicy, witty analysis and radical ramblings and also to keep ourselves from going stark, raving mad. The Post itself--as you well know from our begging--is financially fragile. The staff is peopled increasingly by a high proportion of folks with more work than time on their hands.

Therefore, starting with this issue, we will be entering your lives nine times a year instead of ten. This change of schedule will make the frequency of publication more predictable and regular: every five or six weeks alternately we'll be laying out and publishing the paper, with two seven week breaks--one in the summer and one in the winter. That means no more "but it seems like we just got a Post 4 weeks ago" (because you did) for you and no more back-breaking "but we just had layout a few weeks ago" for us.

Thanks for your continuing and past support. Read us, buy us, wear us and send the articles, money and letters that help us keep going. Deadline for the next issue will be September 5.

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# What's new in

Where have all the burgers gone? What with "Hot Stuffed Potatoes," "Croissan'wiches," and "Garden Spot Salads" stealing the fast food limelight, you might wonder what has happened to the old standby.

There has been an explosion of fast food menu options in the last few years. From 1973 to 1983, Wendy's International added 6 new items to its original 7, Arby's offerings grew from 11 to 17, and the Jack in the Box Restaurants' menu grew from 12 to 30 choices. Industry observers quoted in Advertising Age magazine see it as nothing other than "a headlong rush into new products."

Has America decided that it wants to eat more nutritious fast food meals? Maybe so. Are the fast food companies repsonding with new products? Many are. Is fast food on the verge of becoming nutritionally respectable? Don't count on it. New items may appear more nutritious, but in fact, many are not.

Wendy's may be the best example of a company with a split personality when it comes to nutrition. On the one hand, it sells a Triple Cheeseburger, which we have nicknamed "The Coronary Bypass Special." But recently Wendy's launched a new "light" menu. While some of these "light" items are available elsewhere, the firm deserves some credit for promoting an entire meal plan for people who "watch their intake of calories, sugar, sodium, fat, and cholesterol."



Health-conscious consumers can count other blessings. Salad bars are now available at Wendy's, Burger King, and Roy Rogers Restaurants. Don't take these rare sources of vitamins A and C, folic acid, and fiber for granted. According to analysts quoted in Advertising Age, the high labor costs needed to maintain salad bars make them low-profit items, unless they're very popular. That means chains install them mainly to gain an edge on the competition.

Fortunately, salad bars are not the only nutritious newcomers. For the first time, we find chicken and fish that aren't fried, buns that aren't all white, and salad dressings that aren't too fattening. These signs of progress have taken place in just the last two years.

Announcing Center for Science in the Public Interest's "1985 Best and Worst Fast Foods."

## The worst

Roy Rogers' Crescent Sandwich w/Ham  
Wendy's Cheese Stuffed Potato  
McDonald's Chicken McNuggets  
Hardee's Bacon Cheeseburger  
McDonald's Sausage Biscuit

## The best

Long John Silver's Baked Fish  
Jack in the Box's Shrimp Salad  
Wendy's Reduced-Calorie Salad Dressings

Honorable Mentions  
Arby's Roasted Chicken Breast  
Wendy's Multi-Grain Bun



## The worst

A Closer Look

**Croissant Sandwiches.** "Breakfast on a grease bun" is what you get with the new line of croissant sandwiches sold at Roy Rogers, Burger King, Jack in the Box, and Arby's.

The fat in the plain croissant is higher than you might expect: Roy Rogers' version has the equivalent of more than 4.5 pats (or teaspoons) of butter. The toppings add insult to injury. Total fat in the Roy Rogers Ham Crescent Sandwich accounts for roughly 67 percent of the 557 calories, equivalent to 11 pats of butter. Then again, feeding us fat may be Roy's way of making good on his advertising slogan, "Slow down." After a breakfast like this, who wouldn't feel a bit sluggish?

Fat aside, this sandwich lists sodium content at 1,192 milligrams (mg), an amount that falls within the 1,100 to 3,300 mg range recommended for an entire day! Roy's Sausage Crescent

Sandwich tops the ham version with 1,289 mg of sodium. What's particularly objectionable is that the sodium levels needn't be that high: similar products do better. Arby's Sausage and Egg Croissant has 42 percent less sodium than Roy's Sausage Crescent.

But the Arby's sausage entry has its own problems. It contains 645 mg of cholesterol, more than you would get from eating two large eggs. The American Heart Association recommends that we eat no more than 300 mg of cholesterol a day. In contrast, both Roy Rogers' Sausage Crescent and Ham Crescent sandwiches provide less than 200 mg of cholesterol.

**Stuffed Potatoes.** Have you ever split open a piping hot baked potato and proceeded to melt nine pats of butter over it? That's equivalent to the amount of fat you get from the cheese topping on a Wendy's Cheese Stuffed Potato. This new item may seem a healthful addition to the fast-food menu, given the plain potato's impeccable credentials. But when Wendy's adds the cheese, you get slightly more fat and calories than from a McDonald's Big Mac.

Wendy's Roy Rogers, Arby's, and others are exploiting the innocent baked potato for all it's worth. Served plain at Roy Rogers, the nutritious tuber provides only 211 calories, virtually no fat, and 65 mg of sodium (all but 5 of which the restaurant adds automatically). But once these companies pour on the cheese, bacon, sour cream, and chili, the calorie levels multiply 10-fold, and the fat levels 100-fold.

Sodium-watchers should take special care to avoid Wendy's Bacon and Cheese and Arby's Taco-topped potatoes. Both come with over 1,000 mg of sodium. And, while any appearance of broccoli in burgerland is a welcome sight, don't bother to cheer over any of the Cheese and Broccoli toppings now available. Instead of nine, you get five to seven teaspoons' worth of fat; and instead of 590 calories, you get 376 to 540 calories, depending on the chain.

**Fried Chicken for the '80s.** Chicken McNuggets account for 10 percent of McDonald's total sales, \$750 million a

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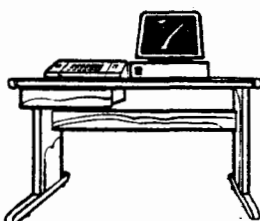
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# fast foods?

year in the United States alone. But nutritionally speaking, Chicken McNuggets are flawed. People may think they're doing themselves a favor by choosing chicken over beef. Of course, that's true if you're talking about roast chicken without the skin, which is comparatively low in fat and saturated fat.

But batter-fried chicken, like Chicken McNuggets, is a different story. Fat supplies over half the calories in Chicken McNuggets. One serving has the equivalent of five pats of butter, roughly twice what you get in a regular McDonald's hamburger. Moreover, much of that fat is saturated, since the chicken is soaked with a frying fat made largely of beef tallow.

The health-conscious consumer has to be wary of all chicken dishes nowadays. Burger King has a Specialty Chicken Sandwich made from "white meat shaped into the likeness of a natural chicken breast." It is battered, breaded, and deep-fried in shortening that is approximately 93 percent beef tallow and 7 percent vegetable oil. This especially greasy sandwich contains enough fat to equal 11 pats of butter.

Jack in the Box serves up a (fried) Chicken Supreme Sandwich and a (fried) Chicken Strips Dinner, and Hardee's had a (fried) Chicken Fillet Sandwich. Of this sorry bunch, Wendy (fried) Chicken Sandwich is the least offensive. By that we mean that it has not more fat than a McDonald's hamburger.

**Bacon Cheeseburgers.** Hardee's Bacon Cheeseburger manages to make its regular cheeseburger look good from a nutritional point of view. The new concoction is essentially a bacon, lettuce, and tomato sandwich on a Quarter Pounder with Cheese. The oversized burger, bacon, and added mayonnaise more than double the fat and calories of Hardee's regular cheeseburger.

When you take your first bite, savor the fat. There's plenty of it. We counted the fat equivalent of 11 pats of butter. Now taste the salt: a Bacon Cheeseburger contains 1.074 mg of sodium. And finally, enjoy the appearance of your bacon. That's due in part to sodium nitrite, an additive that may have created cancer-causing nitrosamines when the bacon was fried.

Hardee's isn't the only company to make Bacon Cheeseburgers. Jack in the Box, Roy Rogers, Burger King, and Wendy's share the dubious honor.

**Breakfast Biscuits.** According to a 1983 survey, breakfast is the fast food industry's best performer. Between 1978 and 1982, sales jumped 53 percent, and the number of breakfast customers rose 32 percent. Why are so many folks eating breakfast out? Analysts give two reasons: more working mothers and a growing recognition that skipping breakfast is bad for you. Certainly, most good diets include a healthful morning meal. But if breakfast consists of a McDonald's Sausage Biscuit, you may be better off waiting for lunch.

Sixty-one percent of the 582 calories in this item comes from its fat content, the equivalent of 10 pats of butter. The McDonald's biscuit also boasts 1,380 mg of sodium. In fact, with its 1,949 mg, a McDonald's Ham Biscuit has one of the highest sodium levels of all the fast foods we examined.

The Sausage and Biscuit has been a Hardee's staple for some time. Unfortunately, the product is catching on. Roy Rogers recently added Egg and Biscuit Platters to its lineup, offering customers not just fat and sodium but also the cholesterol they didn't have time to cook at home.

--Bonnie Liebman, excerpted from *Nutrition Action*, June 1985.

## Nutritional Contents of Selected Fast Foods

	Calories	Fat (Pats*)	Fat (Percent of calories)	Sodium (mg)
<b>MCDONALD'S</b>				
Hamburger	255	2.6	35	520
Chicken McNuggets	314	5.0	54	525
Filet-O-Fish	432	6.6	52	781
Big Mac	563	8.7	53	1,010
Sausage Biscuit	582	10.4	61	1,380
<b>ROY ROGERS</b>				
Plain Potato	211	0	0	65
Potato w/ oleo	274	1.9	24	161
Roast Beef Sandwich	317	2.7	29	785
Crescent Roll	287	4.7	56	547
Potato w/ Broccoli 'n Cheese	376	4.8	43	523
Crescent Sandwich w/ Sausage	449	7.7	59	1,289
Crescent Sandwich w/ Ham	442	7.5	58	1,192
<b>WENDY'S</b>				
Pasta Salad (1/2 cup)	134	1.6	40	400
Chicken Sandwich on wheat bun	320	2.6	28	500
Taco Salad	390	4.8	40	1,100
Broccoli & Cheese Potato	500	6.6	45	430
Cheese Stuffed Potato	590	9.0	52	450
<b>HARDEE'S</b>				
Chef's Salad	272	4.2	53	517
Chicken Fillet Sandwich	510	6.9	46	360
Shrimp Salad	362	7.7	72	941
Bacon Cheeseburger	686	11.1	55	1,074
<b>ARBY'S</b>				
Roasted Chicken Breast (no bun)	254	1.9	25	930
Broccoli & Cheese Potato	540	5.8	37	480
Mushroom & Cheese Potato	510	5.8	39	640
(Fried) Chicken Breast Sandwich	584	7.4	43	1,323
Sausage & Egg Croissant	530	9.3	59	745
<b>LONG JOHN SILVER'S</b>				
Baked Fish w/ sauce	151	0.5	12	361
Mixed Vegetables	54	0.5	33	570
Corn on the Cob	176	1.1	20	0
Coleslaw	182	4.0	74	367
Fish w/ batter (2 pc)	404	6.4	53	1,346
<b>BURGER KING</b>				
Veal Parmigiana	580	7.1	42	805
Bacon Double Cheeseburger	600	9.3	53	985
Specialty Chicken Sandwich	690	11.1	55	775
<b>JACK IN THE BOX</b>				
Shrimp Salad (no dressing)	115	0.3	8	460
Taco Salad	377	6.3	57	1,436
Chicken Supreme Sandwich	601	9.5	54	1,582
<b>KENTUCKY FRIED CHICKEN</b>				
Breast (Original Recipe)	199	3.1	53	558
Extra Crispy Dark Dinner**	765	14.2	63	1,480

\*Pats-of-butter equivalent. A pat of butter contains 3.8 grams of fat.

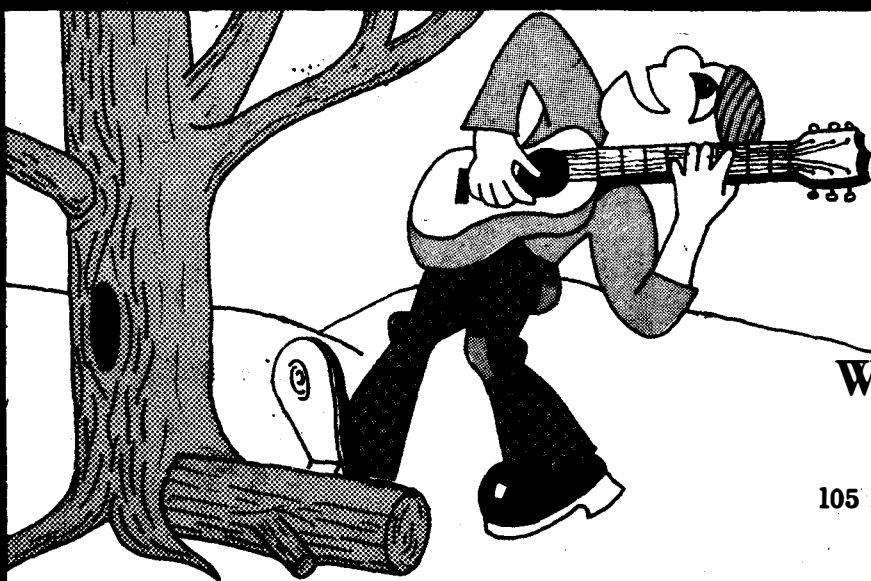
\*\*Includes drumstick, thigh, mashed potatoes, gravy, coleslaw, and roll.

## THE GALLERY

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### JULY/AUGUST SCHEDULE

<b>JULY</b>		<b>AUG</b>	
Wed. 24	Mike Hogan	Fri. 2	The Toltecs
Thur. 25	P.J. & The Terrorists	(no cover)	
(no cover)		Sat. 3	Nameless Dread
Fri. 26	Wonders	Wed. 7	Mitch Duerfeldt
(no cover)		Thur. 8	Halibut Tre-Trio
Sat. 27	Odd Man Out	Fri. 9	Action Potential
(no cover)		Sat. 10	NATO splash
Wed. 31	Rich Margherio		
Thur. 1	Salad Bar Not Included		
(comedy)			



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# Shut down the arsenal

Rock Island Arsenal is central to everything that is wrong in the US and in the world: the mass-production of instruments of death while millions starve, escalating armed intervention against popular revolutions in the Third World, and rapid moves toward a nuclear World War III. The Midwest has the resources to feed itself and much of the world and to manufacture the machinery to grow that food. Instead, these resources lie idle.

Hundreds blockaded the Arsenal on June 4th, 1984, shaking its complacency and demonstrating the strengthening opposition to the Arsenal and what it represents. Project Disarm again calls for mass action to Shut Down the Arsenal on October 21, 1985, to confront and stop this military nerve center in the Midwest.

Why shut down the Arsenal?

**Militarization of Society.** Idle workers are competing for fewer jobs as the military expands. Human resources are being slashed, resulting in the devastation of Black, Hispanic and other poor communities. The Philadelphia bombing shows the increasing willingness of the authorities to war against black people. Harvester, Deere and Caterpillar lay off productive workers, leaving capacity unused in the Midwest. Meanwhile they maintain plants in South Africa where they can use virtual black slave labor. And as

people starve around the world and malnutrition grows in the US, farmers go bankrupt due to "overproduction" and low price. In other words, profits and the "free market" dictate that farmers and workers cannot make the very things most needed in the world.

Communities such as the Quad Cities are converted into military manufacturing sites. The livelihood of whole cities is becoming dependent on preparation for war. Many people are coming to believe that their future prosperity will grow from making weapons. But this will only be true to the extent that these guns permit the US to freely exploit other nations of the world.

**Invasions, Occupation, and Mercenaries.** The Arsenal is the US military's largest manufacturing arsenal. The \$233 million Project ReArm is designed to increase the volume of weaponry available both for intensifying intervention and for all-out global war. 40% of Arsenal arms are sold to US-backed regimes such as El Salvador, Honduras, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and the Phillipines in order to enforce US goals against the people there. Machine guns and howitzers are used in US invasions of places such as Grenada and Lebanon. Arsenal weapons are vital to US war plans in Central America. Honduras has been turned into a US military fortress: a base for the US-backed Contras, war maneuvers, and a staging-ground for

invasion. This strengthens the US position for direct intervention to overthrow the Sandinista government of Nicaragua, crush the advance of the FMLN in El Salvador, and head off the revolution in Guatemala.

**Nuclear Warfighting Preparations.** Most Arsenal employees work for the headquarters of the Army's AMCCOM: Armament, Munitions, and Chemical Command. AMCCOM manages computer inventory of all conventional, nuclear and chemical munitions for the US Army. It manages assembly and transport of the weapons. It plans for emergency airlift of weapons. And AMCCOM runs several other Arsenals in the US as well as arms depots overseas. The Arsenal, then, is an essential component in nuclear warfighting plans that are based on the intention and capability of a US nuclear first strike.

Mass direct action

We must take direct action to develop resistance to war. Direct action is the only form of resistance those in power cannot ignore. They must divert energies to stop us. Only through collective direct action can we develop the power to make the changes we need.

Resistance can begin anywhere. Hundreds of thousands have not registered for the draft. Hundreds of faith-based communities have defied

# Rightists plan

In 1951, a junior senator from California, Richard Nixon, introduced a private bill which would allow Rumania Iron Guardist Nicolae Malaxa to become a permanent United States citizen.

The Iron Guard is a right wing Rumanian para-military organization which killed 10,000 Rumanian Jews during a Nazi-backed attempted coup of the Rumanian government in 1941. Nicolae Malaxa was a member, industrialist, and financial backer of the Iron Guard. The leader of the revolt was Viorel Trifia. In 1952 Viorel Trifia turned up in the United States as a bishop in the Rumanian Orthodox Church.

When Nixon's bill failed to pass, Nicolae Malaxa set up a dummy corporation known as Western Tube Corporation in Richard Nixon's home town of Whittier, California.

On May 17, 1951, the Western Tube Corp. filed for a "certificate of necessity to give war time priority to its materials and personnel." The company also filed for a petition

seeking "first preference quota" for its treasurer, Nicolae Malaxa.

Both applications were personally helped along by Senator Nixon. Both applications were granted.

Later Malaxa went to South America to visit other Iron Guardists and was challenged re-entering the United States by the Immigration and Naturalization Service. He was ordered deported, but Malaxa appealed the decision and won.

Nixon's friend, U.S. Attorney William Rogers, affirmed the Immigration Appeals Board's ruling. Senator Nixon also invited Bishop Viorel Trifia to make the opening prayer at a Senate session in 1955.

Between 1969 and 1972 Governor Ronald Reagan and the California National Guard encouraged close cooperation between local police and the military, concentrating on special tactics such as crowd control, SWAT training, mass arrest procedures, and intelligence. This was accomplished through a series of police/military joint exercises called Operation Cable Splicer I, II,

III, which were exposed in a 1975 investigation report by journalist Ron Ridenhour, published in the alternative weekly New Times.

Ridenhour found that the Cable Splicer exercises were designed to train both police and the National Guard in the techniques of establishing martial law. The main part of the plan (according to an army report obtained by Ridenhour) was to gather intelligence on "movement leaders" so that they could be quickly rounded up if and when the time came.

The 1975 article by Ridenhour on Cable Splicer also states that Army documents indicate most police departments in California as well as many from other parts of the country sent participants or observers.

Cable Splicer was just one of many such actions sponsored by the Defense Department nationwide. Between 1970 and 1972 the Connecticut National Guard and Republican Governor Thomas Meskill (who was later appointed by Nixon as a federal judge) ran a series of "martial law war games" with state and local police under the name "Table Top Exercises."

As one part of Cable Splicer, national guard troops and specially selected police officers by the thousands from around California were given special training at the National Guard Base in San Luis Obispo, where the state and defense department had established the California Specialized Training Institute. One of the lessons taught in a course at that institute titled "California Civil Disorder Management" was about implementing "martial rule."

It read: "No constitution, no statute or ordinance can authorize Martial Rule; (it) comes into existence upon a determination (not a declaration) by the senior military commander that the civil government must be replaced because it is no longer functioning anyway. . . . It shifts control from civilians and to the military completely and without the necessity of a declaration, proclamation or other form of public manifestation. . . . There are severe

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# ...October 21st



the authorities to give sanctuary to refugees from US-sponsored terror in Central America. Small groups of Christians, calling themselves Plowshares from the Biblical injunction to "hammer swords...", have physically disarmed the instruments of nuclear war. Women have set up peace camps outside military bases and corporations to disrupt US nuclear war plans. Campuses have been shaken by the anti-apartheid student movement. Thousands have blockaded federal and corporate military production and transportation facilities.

These actions are a good beginning, but more is needed. They show the potential to develop the kind of movement that can actually stop specific war plans and can effectively challenge the war machine as a whole.

Resistance is not only for already committed activists. We call on youth, women, unemployed workers, Blacks and Hispanics, Quad Cities workers, farmers and all others affected by the militarization of society to join and/or support the action. By concentrating our energies on a single key point we can raise the stakes for the US trying to carry out its war plans.

The Shutdown is a challenge to the determination and creativity of all its participants. Within a set of nonviolent guidelines we will use creative blockade tactics to stop Arsenal workers from reaching Arsenal island to plan and produce for US wars.

As one local news article said after June 4th:

"I drove over Government Bridge, and floodlights were glinting off the long strands of concertina wire. That was the same kind of razor-edged wire that stretched around Vietnam base camps like Lai Khe. I fear that Arsenal Island will never again be the same. No longer will it be that big, green, friendly place....Maybe we've had it good for too long."

**Project Disarm**  
c/o Disarm Now Action Group  
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Chicago IL 60605-1141

**Project Disarm**  
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## for martial law

statutory limitations and procedural requirements imposed by the Government Code which are not present in a Martial Rule situation. As stated above, Martial Rule is limited only by the principle of necessary force."

This explanation was signed and approved by the man in charge of the institute, California National Guard Commandant Louis O. Guiffrida.

Another Cable Splicer participant was an advisor to Governor Reagan named Edwin Meese III. Meese is quoted in the Cable Splicer report as follows:

"Finally, we need to improve our ability in the investigation, identification, and prosecution of those, particularly the leaders, who are responsible for the revolutionary activity in our state. . . . We have to have even more maximum photography, maximum evidence gathering by . . . detectives and others that normally do not get suited up for the conflict . . . utilizing them as much as possible in gathering evidence so that we can successfully prosecute those who are raging the conflict on the campuses and in the streets."

According to the report the main key to the Martial Rule plan was to gather intelligence on "movement leaders" so they could be quickly rounded up, leaving the movements leaderless.

To give some examples of some of the "revolutionary movements" Meese and Cable Splicer participants referred to, the following is a partial list of targets of spying by the LAPD. State legislators, city council members, mayor and Democratic gubernatorial candidate Tom Bradley, the executive producer of a local TV news program, several newspapers, Jesse Jackson's People United to Save Humanity (PUSH), the National Organization for Women (NOW), the National Council of Churches, the L.A. Vanguard, anti-nuclear groups, and many other organizations, including a day care group.

The Los Angeles Police Department has admitted turning their files over to Western Goals (the John Birch Society

foundation), where they were computerized and made available to other police and unnamed right-wing political organizations.

Since Ronald Reagan has been president his administration has imposed the following restrictions on civil liberties:

1. An Executive Order to increase the ease of classifying documents.
2. An Executive Order requiring government employees with access to sensitive information to undergo lie detector tests and sign agreements for prepublication review.
3. Renewed use of the McCarran Act to prevent "undesirable" political views from being heard by denying visas to certain foreign visitors.
4. Proposed restrictions on the Freedom of Information Act both legislatively and through litigation by the Justice Department.
5. Restrictions on the exchange of scientific communication through the application of export control statutes.
6. Executive Orders that expand law enforcement authority to conduct political surveillance.
7. Attempted restrictions of access to nonclassified information by proposed DOE regulations, coercion of authors and writers not to publish, and threats to speakers at scientific conferences.

Just recently the Senate Foreign Relations Committee recommended approval of the United Nations treaty outlawing genocide, but attached two key restrictions that dilute the purpose of the document.

Under provisions negotiated by Senators Richard G. Lugar, Republican-Indiana (the committee chair) and Jesse Helms, Republican-North Carolina, the treaty's applicability would be limited and the United States could refuse to be a party to genocide proceedings before the World Court.

Richard G. Lugar said, "The language of the pact exempts U.S. citizens who may in the future be accused of genocide from the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice and protects the 'supremacy of the U.S. Constitution' from possible interpretation by foreign tribunals."

The Nixon/Reagan-packed Supreme Court has attacked:

1. The Fifth Amendment (protection against self-incrimination);
2. The Sixth Amendment (guarantee of assistance of counsel);
3. The Fourth Amendment (protection against unreasonable searches and seizures).

The Court has also ruled that the presumption of innocence has "no application to the rights of a pre-trial detainee during confinement before his trial has even begun," and that a judge does not have to instruct a jury that a defendant is innocent until proven guilty.

A jury may contain fewer than 12 members, and a unanimous verdict is not needed by a 12-member jury to convict a person.

Indigent defendants are not entitled to free legal counsel as long as a judge did not sentence them to jail.

Judges are immune from lawsuits resulting from the decisions they make. The specific case involved a 15-year-old woman who was ordered involuntarily sterilized, told she was receiving an appendectomy by authorities and her mother, and then tried to sue after she became married and discovered she was sterilized.

The Justice Department's Nazi-hunting Office of Special Investigations has been under attack by critics demanding its dismantlement. There has of yet been no word from Edwin Meese III on whether or not he will heed these "special interests."

--Richard Mote



# Civil Disobedience:     Protesting Contra aid

## The action, the demonstration, the aftermath

On Wednesday, June 12, I was arrested with six other members of the Bloomington-Normal Pledge of Resistance for an act of civil disobedience. The action was in response to a call from the National Pledge to protest the upcoming decision on aid to the Nicaraguan Contras, which was due to be voted on that day, and was in solidarity with many other actions across the nation.

We decided to stage a sit-in at our local IRS office on the fourth floor of the Hundman Building as a means of preventing war taxes from being paid for that day. A demonstration was also planned for outside the building.

Those of us who had committed to civil disobedience met extensively for several nights prior to the action. We had many issues to discuss, both personal and legal. We had all had training in civil disobedience procedures several weeks earlier, and we talked about our strategy, trying to figure out the most effective way of making our statement.

We decided that we would blockade the office door from the outside, letting people out of the office but not in. In this way we would not interfere with the workers but also would not allow anyone to pay taxes. We also decided to release prior information to both the media and the police about the action.

The media were informed for obvious

### Protesters need bucks

Dear Friends,

Earlier this month, both the U.S. Senate and House passed legislation which provides both \$27 million in "humanitarian" aid, and for an end to the prohibition of U.S. military aid to the contra forces in their attempt to overthrow the Nicaraguan government. On June 12th, in an effort to encourage Congressional representatives to vote against this contra aid, Pledge of Resistance members from all across the United States participated in both legal protests and in acts of civil disobedience. As you know, seven members of the Bloomington-Normal Pledge of Resistance were arrested for criminal trespass while participating in a sit-in at the local IRS office, while additional Pledge members passed leaflets out and protested outside. Those arrested have been released on personal recognizance bonds, and are scheduled for arraignment on September 3rd, by which time the decision to plead guilty or not guilty will have been made.

Plans for local Pledge fundraising events in the coming months are in the process. However, we are in need of immediate financial support to help cover the cost of printing leaflets, mailings, and bail and fines for those already arrested, and for those who may be arrested in the future. We are now asking that each Pledge member contribute \$10 to help cover these costs. We understand that some of us may not be able to contribute that amount at this time, so we ask that everyone contribute whatever amount they are able and willing to spare. Be assured that any contribution is much needed and appreciated. Hope to see everyone at the next Pledge meeting. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Bloomington-Normal Pledge  
of Resistance  
501 S. Main St.  
Normal, IL 61761

reasons--public awareness and education. Our decision to inform the police was based mostly on the fact that, with one exception, none of us had ever done anything like this before. This was a first for the Bloomington/Normal authorities, and we wanted to have some idea of how they would respond.

Our legal advisor, Michael Barford, eased our minds by describing the procedures we would probably go through when arrested. As I said, with one exception none of us had ever been arrested for anything before, and we were all pretty nervous about the prospect.

That Wednesday morning we all met to solidify our plans and our commitment. We also made ourselves T-shirts bearing the names of Nicaraguan citizens. In this way we felt we were indicating that the Contra aid situation involves individual human lives and not just money and military maneuvers. We spent a final few minutes in prayer/meditation for strength of purpose and then left for the Hundman Building.

When we got there we were told by other Pledge members that the IRS had shut down their Bloomington office for "realignment of facilities." Realizing that this was an attempt to thwart the action, we decided to proceed with the demonstration. We declared victory to our supporters and to the media because we felt that our aim had been achieved. No one would be able to pay taxes for the day.

We then separated from our outside supporters and went to the office where we sat in a tight row barricading the door. We saw a few workers inside, looking very busy shift-

ing boxes and furniture around. Occasionally they came to the door to look at us. We let them know with a sign that they were free to leave the office but could not re-enter. At one point a worker tried to get back into the office, but after several attempts to push through, she left angrily.

We spent the next few hours singing songs and talking to the media people who were there to cover the story. We gave them press releases and statements regarding the purpose of our action. We also were kept in close contact with the demonstration outside through our support people and "runners"- Pledge members whose job was to keep us informed of outside events including possible police action. We also got lots of support and encouragement from friends and fellow activists who would drop in to see us during our vigil.

We knew that the IRS office was already scheduled to close for the day at 1:30, and we were beginning to wonder if an act of civil disobedience would be necessary. Maybe we would just be able to continue our vigil until 5:00 p.m. and go home. We hoped for this, not only because we did not relish the idea of arrest but also because we would then be free to do other civil disobedience action when called (two convictions would be more serious than one).

Then at around 1:00 we began to notice the presence of two very suspicious-looking fellows in suits who kept checking in on us periodically. One of our runners came up and informed us that a paddywagon had been brought to the back of the building. We discussed the situation and re-established our commitment to stay.

At about 1:40, building owner Larry

Hundman came in with police and told us that we had to leave because we were disturbing the other building tenants. We were given 10 minutes to leave and told that after that time anyone in the hall or doorway area would be arrested for trespassing. Our supporters left us to move the demo outside with a final word of encouragement, and we waited for the arrest.

That ten-minute wait was, for me at least, absolutely agonizing. Although I was aware of the possibilities, I had no idea what was going to happen. I was scared about being handcuffed, being treated roughly, and possibly having to spend the night in jail.

As it turned out, we were treated very well. After the 10 minutes were up, Hundman came back and asked us what our decision was. We told him we were staying, and Sheriff Briennan told us we would be charged with trespassing. We held our ground and at that point the police moved in. One by one we were told, "You're under arrest," and at that point we got up and walked out. We were not handcuffed or treated roughly, although the arresting officers kept a firm hand on one arm. Sheriff Briennan kept apologizing for "having to do this."

We were escorted to the paddywagon and as we got in we could hear the cheers from our fellow demonstrators across the street. We found it amusing that we had to ride across the street to the Law and Justice Center in a paddywagon, and the police must have thought so too because they kept joking to us about our long trip and "here's the next stop." I remember asking for a transfer.

As soon as we arrived at the Law and

Justice Center we were taken into the booking room where we were individually asked a lot of standard questions which were answered on a form. Some of us were taken into other rooms to do this and then returned to the booking room. During the questioning period our arresting officers continued to joke with us about our "criminal activities," nicknames, etc.

I felt weird: although I was grateful that we weren't mistreated and I appreciated their efforts to put us at ease, I also felt quite resentful. It was like our effort was just a big joke to them, some silly college prank that they would rather not be wasting their time on.

By the time we were ready for fingerprints and pictures, we knew we were going to be released on personal recognizance bonds, which was a big relief, I wasn't nearly as scared anymore and just wanted to get out of there. I was becoming increasingly irritated by the remarks of the detectives and particularly by one officer who half-jokingly insisted that I smelled like marijuanna. (I was wearing patchouli oil.) I don't even smoke marijuanna but it still made me nervous.

A few of the members of the group made attempts to talk to the officers about why we did what we did and the situation in Central Amerika, but with little response. After prints and pictures, we were taken back to the booking room, given arraignment dates, and released. The whole thing took maybe an hour.

All in all the arrest was a lot gentler on us than it could have been. That can be explained in part by the fact that we engaged in a peaceful



action and were very cooperative. But I also have to think that the fact that we were all white, middle-class, educated citizens had, sadly, more than a little to do with our treatment.

After our arrest we met with Michael Barford to discuss our experience and a future course of action. We decided to plead not guilty using the necessity defense because we felt that we did indeed commit a lesser crime in order to prevent a greater one.

That concept is at the heart of everything we did that day. And if this defense is allowed in court (and it may not be) we will use our jury trial in a sincere effort to educate and enlighten a group of people that may otherwise not open their eyes to the crucial issue of human rights violations in Central Amerika. We ask for your support.

Diane Perris

## Corporations aiding the contras:

The Dan Beaird Co.	Papa Gino's
The Bollinger Machine Shop	The Washington Times
Burns Petroleum	Avanti Energy Corp.
Caroline House Publishers	Giant Wholesale
William H Cies Co.	Sunland Industries, Inc.
Adolph Coors Co.	H. Boettcher Assoc.
Home Interiors & Gifts, Inc.	Pioneer Operations Co.
The Viguerie Co.	Federal Die Casting
International Collectors Co.	Spencer's Inc.
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Overcash-Goodman Enterprises	Mutual Broadcasting System
TII Industries	National Review
Quaker Oats Co.	Saunders Industries
Ser Vaas Inc.	Lincoln Log Homes
The Saturday Evening Post	Wyman-Gordon Corp.
RKO General Inc.	Hunt Energy Corp.
Suffolk Marketing	Irby Construction Co.
Tyndale House Press	Justice Oil Co.
Texas Steel	Lootite Corp.
Kendavis Industries Inc.	Cabot Corp.
Columbia Pictures Communications	Mr. Steak Inc.
Coordinating Consulting Inc.	Nimslo 3D
Central Well Testing	Petroleum Management
Thornton Industries & Western Steel	& Consultants
Perry-Houston Interests, Inc.	
North American Coin & Currency Ltd.	
Council for National Policy	
Exec. Dir.: Woody Jenkins	
V.P.: Nelson Bunker Hunt	

The above corporations are represented on the Council's Board of Governors

Also, Soldier of Fortune magazine has been quite instrumental in the giving of aid.

## To be or not be disobedient

The decision to commit civil disobedience was one of the hardest decisions I've had to make not because I was unsure of my commitment to the cause (far from it), but because of the possible repercussions that getting arrested and convicted could have on my life and my career.

I knew that we were facing a potentially serious charge--a misdemeanor at the state/local level or a felony at the federal level. I worried about whether or not my job would be endangered. But mostly I worried about the effect on my professional credentials.

I had recently finished 4½ years of school and a 6 month internship in the field of music therapy and had professional certification. I worked hard to achieve those things and they mean a great deal to me. So I imagined a scenario in which I'm applying for the perfect job. It's in an ideal city, wonderful climate, a setting exactly in my area of interest, and pays an outrageous amount of money. There I am with my flawless resume, winding down an absolutely brilliant interview in which pearls of wit, wisdom and insight are literally dropping from my mouth with effortless grace. Suddenly my interviewer glances down at my application and looks up at me in stark horror. "But, Ms. Perris," he/she sputters, "I . . . I see that you've been . . . ARRESTED!"

This scene played through my mind in

countless variations for days before the action. Up until the last night I was still indecisive.

So, why did I do it? What made me decide to deliberately take a step that had the potential to endanger something very important to me?

My decision was based on a lot of factors, but what it really boiled down to at a gut level was a growing moral conviction paired with increased frustration over the ineffectiveness of "legal" methods of calling attention to an urgent situation. I have been involved in the anti-intervention movement for quite some time and have been in solidarity with thousands of people across the country in organizing, leafletting, phone calling, demonstrations and special programs. And these efforts have had their effect. Polls indicate that the majority of Americans don't want U.S. involvement in a war in Central Amerika.

But the voices and efforts of the people have little effect on the policy makers. The war machine keeps rolling in Central Amerika. The U.S. backed air war in El Salvador goes unreported in the U.S. press. Chemical warfare, civilian slaughter and bombings, outright U.S. violations of international law in an attempt to overthrow the government of another country--I could go on and on: our involvement down there is an outrage and continues to escalate

in spite of the united actions of thousands of activists across the country.

My conviction also comes from having met some of the victims and realizing that our actions down there are not merely abstract political maneuvers but violations of human rights on the most basic level. I am haunted daily by the faces of the children burned by white phosphorus and the bodies of the tortured peasants. The urgency of their cries demanded to be met with urgency of action.

--Diane Perris



# Witness for Peace documents

Post-Amerikan readers may remember that several folks from B-N have traveled to Nicaragua this past year with a group called Witness For Peace. WFP maintains a continuous presence in Nicaragua, currently consisting of 30 North Americans, all fluent in Spanish, who coordinate the visits of the short-term (2 weeks) delegations of other U.S. citizens who have been coming to Nicaragua for the past two years. To date, 44 people from Illinois have gone with WFP, and another group of 19 Illinoisans is there as of press time. Of course, thousands of people from the U.S. have gone to Nicaragua with many other groups since the overthrow of Somoza.

Through the contacts established by the WFP long-term team, ordinary people from the U.S. have had an opportunity to meet with representatives of every aspect of Nicaraguan society. Government officials, publishers of opposition newspapers, members of the Sandinista party and many opposition parties, high-ranking church officials, members of the grass-roots liberation theology movement, Maryknoll lay-workers, medical workers, teachers, laborers, and campesinos have all talked about their lives and work in revolutionary Nicaragua.

However, of at least equal importance is the daily work of the long-term team members to investigate, document, and report attacks by the "contra" forces, those whom President Reagan has called, in his most-repulsive distortion of American history, "the moral equivalent of our Founding Fathers." The contras are terrorists trained, armed, supplied and protected by the United States. Our tax-dollars buy their uniforms, food, ammunition, and training materials such as the infamous CIA manual found last year. Their targets are rarely military, but almost exclusively civilian. They direct their raids against isolated campesino families, village food-storage facilities, health and education workers, and agricultural organizers. Following are recent accounts of such activities as provided by WFP volunteers.

## BATITAN: CAPTIVITY AND RAPE OF THE GUZMAN FAMILY. . .

The Guzmans, a farming family in a remote region of central Zelaya province, spent nine months as prisoners of the contras until their escape last month. During those months, Natividad Miranda Sosa, 45, and her four daughters, ranging from eleven to twenty years of age, were raped repeatedly by contra soldiers.

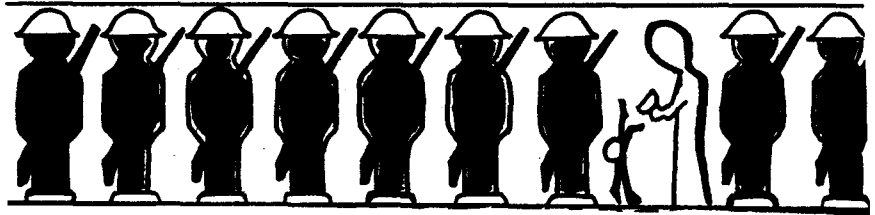
The family's ordeal began on the afternoon of September 10, 1984, when a contra band arrived at their home in Cana Azul, about five miles northeast of Boaco.

Ramon Guzman Gonzales, 55, was away from home, visiting his mother. The women were forced to march for four days.

When they arrived at a contra command post near Silva, the fifteen year old Aureliana was handed over to a contra leader known as "El Gato." He raped her several times in the next two weeks and took her with him to another camp near Aguas Calientes.

According to Natividad, Aureliana was accused of being a member of a health brigade (which is true) and therefore was punished. "Her torture," her mother says with a blank stare, "took the form of rape and starvation."

The mother and the three other daughters were kept in Silva, under a contra leader known as "El Gavilan."



El Gavilan took thirteen year old Rosalinda as his "woman." His bodyguard regularly raped twenty year old Isidra. Natividad kept eleven year old Mirian under her protection until the contras managed to separate them. They told Natividad that she was to go to the other end of the camp to cook.

"When I got there, they said, 'We don't need any cooks. This is what we want you for.' And they subjected me to their immoral acts. They gave me to someone named 'El Criminal' and he and two others raped me all night."

Eleven year old Mirian was also being raped, passed from one contra to the next. The following night they didn't touch Mirian, but for Natividad it was worse than the night before. "I didn't think I would live," she said.

After thirteen days, the women were transferred to the community of Olia Olia, where they were separated and raped again. They lived under the constant threat of death should they try to escape.

When the Guzman family was rescued, they arrived practically naked, barefoot, with swollen bellies and health problems that included malaria.

MATAGALPA: EVENING RAID BY THE CONTRAS LEAVES NICARAGUAN WOMAN WITHOUT PARENTS OR CHILD. . .

Cora lost her father, mother, and two year old son in the attack on the cooperative of La Aulo, 20 miles northeast of Rio Blanco, on May 17. La Aulo is a small agricultural community in a hilly area, which grows rice and beans in addition to raising a few head of cattle. The contras had passed by two days earlier, looking for her father, Eulario Molina Lopez, 52, who was president of the co-op.

Eulario was not at home at the time. The contras contented themselves with burning the local school before retreating.

Cora described the attack as two minutes of terror. Her mother, Rafaela Ramos Albasuga, 44, was killed in the house. Her father, wounded in the foot, tried to escape and was shot in the chest as he ran from the house. Cora's left breast was torn by shrapnel. Her right forearm was shattered by gunfire. She ran out of the kitchen door clutching her wounded baby and trailing her three other children. As she lay hidden in the woods, she realized that her son Eden, 2, whose blood and intestines were spilled all over her, was dead.

Ten people were wounded in the attack, including two of Cora's sisters, one brother, two sons and one of her nieces.

She has spoken about the revolution in terms only a campesino can fully understand. "We lived in La Aulo for nine or ten years. Before that, my father had four or five acres of land in the mountains. He was very poor. He did not qualify for loans from the bank. After the triumph (successful ouster of U.S.-backed dictator Somoza in July 1979), they began to form cooperatives and my father started to be a member, nothing more. He got two cows in a loan from the bank."

Cora reflects on those who killed her father. "The children are not to blame. The mothers are not to blame. If they wanted my father because of the cooperative, they could have taken him alone, directly, right?"

IT'S ALL TOGETHER AT

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ALWAYS IN-SHOP BARGAINS

COME BROWSE FOR MUCH MORE!

# Contra tactics

My mother and child would not have died. There would not have been so many wounded. But they are clearly beasts."

To receive WFP Newsbriefs, write to: Witness For Peace  
515 Broadway  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Please send along whatever money you can to help pay for printing and mailing costs. Like every other aspect of the struggle against the Reagan administration's unconscionable war against the people of Central America, WFP operates on next to nothing.

--Susan Heiser  
1613 N. School St.  
Normal, IL



## Anti-Apartheid

# Acquittal of protesters sets precedent

CHICAGO. The May 17 acquittal of eight protesters, charged with trespassing in the South African consulate here, was hailed as a moral victory against apartheid and concluded a trial that, in effect, served as a forum for the Free South Africa Movement. The case also represented the first judgment on South African policies to come out of the U.S. courts.

Utilizing the legal theory of "necessity," the defense lawyer changed the trial's focus from that of simple tres-

passing to the issue of protesting apartheid. "The victory was extremely significant because it sets a precedent for others who may want to engage in civil disobedience against apartheid," explained Lewis Myers Jr., an attorney on the defense team.

The multiracial group of defendants, all members of the Free South Africa Movement, had argued they were justified in trespassing by the "necessity" to help end the moral evil of the South African system of apartheid.

There is a specific statute in Illinois law that excuses "conduct which would otherwise be an offense. . ." if that conduct is believed to be necessary "to avoid a greater public or private injury."

The defendants said they were compelled by a "deep sense of morality" to violate the city ordinance against trespassing. Not only were their actions justified by the Illinois statute, their lawyers argued, but also by the established practices of international law, the UN's Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Nuremberg Principles.

During the four-day trial, the jury of nine whites, two blacks and one Hispanic heard arguments comparing apartheid to Nazism and charging the U.S. with violating international law for "aiding and abetting" the regime through its "constructive engagement" policies.

"We found that they acted out of necessity," said juror Catherine Zemke. "We were concerned that other people might start trespassing, but we also had to do the right thing."

Prosecuting attorney Gary Wallace insisted that South Africa was not the issue. "This is a simple case of trespassing which is a violation of the city's municipal code. . . . South African policies of apartheid are not on trial."

But the defense contended that South African policies were, in fact, at the heart of the trial. After establishing that apartheid is a "crime against humanity," for having encoded a system of laws that allow "murder, extermination, enslavement, deportation and other inhumane acts committed against any civilian populations. . . ." the defense team argued that the Nuremberg Principles hold all who know of such crimes responsible for disobeying any and all laws justifying them.

According to Free South Africa Movement members, jurors were chosen because of their ignorance on the subject of South Africa. "The jury's lack of knowledge about apartheid and South Africa was both depressing and encouraging," said Alice Palmer, wife of one of the defendants and active anti-apartheid organizer. "Depressing because it implies that there's a lot of ignorance out there, and people should be better informed. But encouraging in that when they do learn about it they want to do the right thing."

--from In These Times

## ARE YOU OPPOSED TO THE RACIST REGIME IN SOUTH AFRICA?

And willing to commit some of your time to supporting the freedom struggle in southern Africa, and the movement here to break all U.S. ties to apartheid? Then we want you to join us. We are the U.S. Out of Southern Africa Network. Our Network was initiated by the People's Anti-War Mobilization (PAM) and the All-Peoples Congress (APC), two of the major progressive activist organizations in the forefront of fighting Reagan's policies at home and abroad. We are working together with other forces opposed to apartheid in the hope of sustaining and expanding this movement. The U.S. Out of Southern Africa Network can provide fact sheets, literature and buttons, as well as other resources on southern Africa. We can also help to facilitate those who want to be part of a national network for information and coordination of activities.

## Join the U.S. Out of Southern Africa Network

We call ourselves the U.S. Out of Southern Africa Network because if it were not for the vast economic, military, and political collaboration between the U.S. and South Africa, the racist regime would probably not be able to perpetuate itself for long. The U.S. is not merely a casual investor in South Africa. It is a full partner with the racist regime, reaping the benefits of apartheid. U.S. big business, the government and the military will do anything in its power to bolster and secure white minority rule in southern Africa. That is why we feel the movement to get the U.S. out of South Africa is an essential part of the anti-apartheid struggle.

## Break all U.S. ties with apartheid!

More than 6,000 U.S. businesses and banks including every major corporation does business in South Africa, with many operating large scale operations there.

- U.S. corporations exercise vast influence over the South African economy, dominating key sectors such as the auto, energy, and high-tech industries. It is no coincidence that when the bosses close down an auto plant in the Midwest laying off thousands of workers that same plant re-opens in South Africa where the labor is cheaper and the profits more lucrative.
- U.S. banks provide the loans that keep the apartheid economy going.
- South Africa does more than a quarter of all its foreign trade with the U.S.
- The U.S. is South Africa's principal supplier of sophisticated technology without which the South African economy and military could not thrive.
- Thanks to the U.S. the racist regime now has nuclear technology to threaten the peoples of southern Africa and all of Africa.
- In violation of both U.S. and International law, South Africa gets weapons and war planes from Pentagon contractors.
- The Pentagon and the CIA have extensive ties to the military and intelligence agencies of South Africa. They work together closely against the freedom struggle.
- South Africa serves as a guard dog for U.S. imperialist interests in Africa, using its superior economic and military power to destabilize other countries in the region such as Angola, Mozambique and Zimbabwe who are struggling to be free from U.S. European and South African domination.

## Support the ANC and SWAPO!

We support the liberation struggle of the peoples of South Africa led by the African National Congress (ANC). The ANC is waging an armed struggle against the racist regime through its army, the Spear of a Nation, and it also works in the mass resistance movement, and growing labor movement in South Africa.

The racist regime illegally occupies the country of Namibia which shares a border with South Africa. We support the South West African Peoples Organization (SWAPO) of Namibia which has been leading the Namibian people in an armed struggle against South Africa's racist occupation army and puppet government.

- ☐ I/my organization want to join or affiliate with the U.S. Out of Southern Africa Network.
- ☐ Enclosed is a donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to help with the work.
- ☐ Please send me more information.

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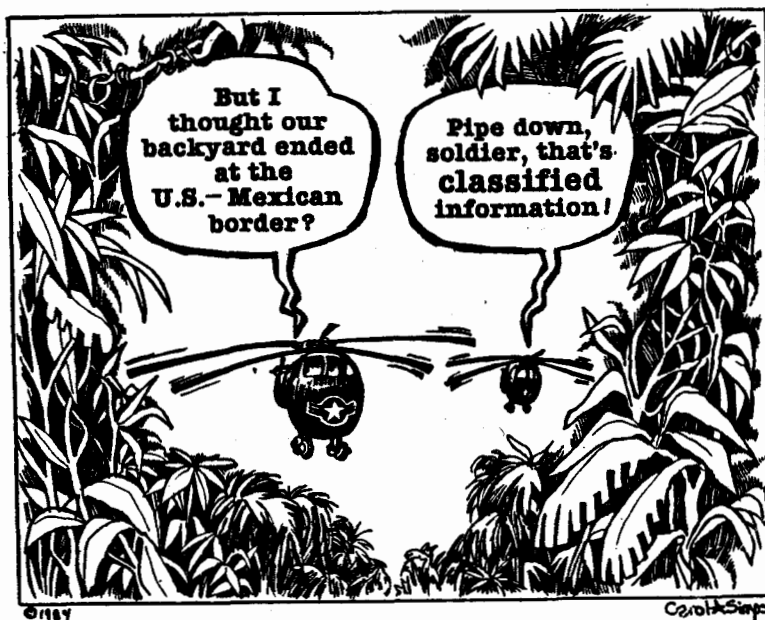
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Labor donated

# U.S. press ignores



Remember El Salvador?

How is it that over the past two years the United States has been organizing, supplying, overseeing and in many cases actually executing the heaviest bombing and most ferocious aerial war ever seen in the Americas and not one coherent report of the extent, viciousness or consequences of this campaign has appeared in any major U.S. newspaper or magazine?

The outrage to truth is barely credible. Most mainstream publications are echoing the complacent and ignorant words of an editorial in *The Christian Science Monitor* for May 16 which called El Salvador "the one region in Central America in which United States policies clearly have been successful. The U.S. has backed the forces of moderation... (Duarde) can be expected to progress with reforms." The only substantive achievement here is that the United States is getting away with war crimes with barely a word of description or protest. Unfortunately, the U.S. left and left-liberal community, preoccupied with Nicaragua, has not mounted a campaign to disclose the atrocities. El Salvador is going the way of Guatemala: a monument to counter-insurgency of unimaginable brutality and a testament to the gutless complicity of the U.S. press.

When the United States experienced the first urban aerial bombardment in its history, courtesy of the police force of Philadelphia, the news coverage was massive, the investigation assiduous and the indignation voluble. The nation of El Salvador is not as convenient for journalists as the state of Pennsylvania, but many U.S. reporters are based there and others visit it regularly. Since the middle of 1983, an aerial war has been responsible for most of El Salvador's 500,000 internal refugees and for many of the 750,000 refugees outside the country's borders. This was almost entirely escaped the attention of the press corps, even when it reached a particularly savage level during that country's presidential election campaign of 1984. Almost as many U.S. reporters were in El Salvador then as were in New Hampshire during the primary season. It is as if 750-pound bombs were being dropped on the White Mountains, the farmers of New Hampshire being regularly machine-gunned from the air and their families being mutilated and slaughtered, and the press corps in Concord on primary night said nothing about it.

## War as open secret

As noted in the September 1984 issue of *Alert!*, The monthly newspaper of the Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador:

In El Salvador the Pentagon has unleashed a counter-insurgency air war on a scale never seen in Latin America... The fact that this unprecedented bombardment is completely absent from press accounts is all the more astonishing

as the carpet bombing of the Guazapa volcano at times literally shakes the residences of the international journalists, safely ensconced in the capital city.

What is taking place, as you may have guessed, is a "secret war." A secret war may be defined as a military enterprise carried out by the United States and known to its victims, international observers, humanitarian organizations, foreign journalists, and the domestic radical community but, for reasons of collective internal censorship, not reported in the mainstream media of the United States. In this sense, the U.S. bombings from the early 1960s through the early 1970s of South Vietnam, Laos, and

Cambodia were "secret," until circumstances permitted this collective censorship to be relaxed, though in the case of South Vietnam much of it is still in force.

## Witnesses to the slaughter

Anyone who doubts that such a war is being waged in El Salvador should obtain two reports from Americas Watch. "Free Fire" was published last August; "Draining the Sea..." appeared this March. Equally valuable is "U.S. Aid to El Salvador," a report presented to the bipartisan Arms Control and Foreign Policy Caucus by Representatives Jim Leach and George Miller and Senator Mark Hatfield. There has been some fine reporting by Chris Hedges in *The Christian Science Monitor* and the *Dallas Morning News*, by Mary Jo McConahay for Pacific News Service, and by Bob Ostertag in *Alert!* and *The Guardian*. So far as I and my colleague Maura Sheehy, who assisted in the research for this column, could determine, that is more or less the full story for a nation of over 226 million people whose journalists give each other more prizes each year than the press of the rest of the world put together.

The compilers of "Free Fire" write that:

thousands of noncombatants are being killed in indiscriminate attacks by bombardments in the air, shell-

ing and ground sweeps. Thousands more are being wounded...As best we can determine, these attacks on civilian noncombatants in conflict zones are part of a deliberate policy...to force civilians to flee...depriving the guerrillas of a civilian population...The cost of pursuing this policy, in terms of human suffering, is beyond measurement. And, of course, it is a policy that flagrantly violates the laws of war.

The March Americas Watch report amplifies this picture, showing that while old-style death-squad activity has abated somewhat, terror bombing and scorched-earth tactics have more than adequately substituted for it. Lethal U.S. high-tech weapons now accompany the bayonet, the machete and the bludgeon. Over one-fifth of the Salvadoran population of 5 million are refugees, a higher percentage than the corresponding figure in South Vietnam at the height of that war.

The report to the bipartisan caucus puts the aerial war in its proper perspective. El Salvador - by which I mean the elite that seeks to retain power - is now an aid junkie, courtesy of the United States. The elite needs the war to get the aid that prevents the economic disintegration of the country (which would otherwise be bankrupt), aid that keeps it in power. Of the \$1.7 billion in U.S. aid that has gone to El Salvador since 1981, no less than 74 percent has been devoted to war and war-related activities. An increasing amount of the present \$500 million annual stipend is used for the aerial war. The last thing the Salvadoran elite will ever want is peace negotiations.

In October 1983, El Salvador's military overseers in the U.S. Defense Department switched to aerial terror after repeated successes by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front. The basic techniques of the air war are: demolition and fragmentation; the dropping of 500- and 750-pound iron bombs, many fitted with nose rods to convert them to "antipersonnel" devices; incendiary bombing, using Israeli-supplied napalm and U.S.-supplied white phosphorus; machine gunning, with A-37 fighter bombers, AC-47s (those "Puff the Magic

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# El Salvador air war

Post-Amerikan July-August 1985 Page 17

Dragons" of Vietnam infamy), Huey and Hughes helicopters. A U.S. intelligence battalion based in Honduras flies OV-1 planes over El Salvador on frequent intelligence missions; their observations are processed by the Pentagon and fed within two hours to the Salvadoran Air Force by the local U.S. supervisors. U.S. pilots oversee the resulting missions and frequently take part in them.

The bombing is indiscriminate, designed to terrorize the people it has not killed into taking flight. The Salvadoran Army contributes regular massacres, to accelerate this flight. In honor of South Lebanon in 1982, Colonel Sigifredo Ochoa speaks of an "Israeli solution": establishing free-fire zones which, journalists are told, contain no "people," only "terrorists." Conforming to this inhumanity, Ochoa's troops have prevented relief organizations from getting food and medical supplies to the desperate victims trapped inside those areas. Ochoa is frequently given respectful treatment by U.S. journalists because he exemplifies the younger, more efficient breed of Salvadoran officer.

## Lies and silence

At all times the U.S. Embassy in San Salvador and the Administration in Washington have lied about the uses of its aid, the increasingly grotesque evasion of the fifty-five-person limit on military advisors, the use of AC-47s in combat and the rate of fire of the guns installed in them, and about the war crimes being committed. The facts are there. There are towns and villages in ruins. La Escopeta is a "ghost town," Chris Hedges reported in *The Christian Science Monitor* for April 6. "Every structure appears to have been hit at least once by a bomb and many show signs of being strafed by machine-gun fire." According to Hedges, parts of Cabanas province look like a wasteland. Americas Watch observers have described hearing the Salvadoran Army's 105-millimeter howitzers blasting away through the night in indiscriminate bombardment. Camps on the Honduran border are crammed with refugees. Where are the reporters to cover these reruns of Guernica and Cambodia? Instead, the U.S. media buries itself in self-serving reconstructions of wars fought ten and

forty years ago.

The mainstream press typically gives upbeat stories about President Jose Napoleon Duarte's progress toward defeating the rebels. He is hailed for ordering the Salvadoran Air Force to avoid indiscriminate bombing. In January, James LeMoine of the *New York Times* provided a straight-faced account of such an order given last fall, with absolutely no discussion of what the air force had been doing before that time and whether the order had any purpose, or result, other than to be faithfully transcribed by the U.S. press corps. In many reports, notably the admiring ones by Edward Cody in *The Washington Post* on the "bigger, tougher" and "trim" Salvadoran Army, one almost gets the sense that the war is winding down, that the "problem" has been solved. And, as noted above, the concentration on Nicaragua by the U.S. left and left-liberal community has contributed to this mood. But an hour's reading of human rights reports and some foreign journalism instantly attests that El Salvador is still a charnel house. The U.S.-backed forces appear to be winning only because the United

States is repeating its achievements in Indochina: bombing, shelling, saturation machine-gunning, clearing "guerrilla territory" by spreading terror.

## Duarte: pipping for massacre

An article in the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* for May 12 by Ambrose Evans-Pritchard, Central America correspondent for the London *Spectator*, put it quite simply:

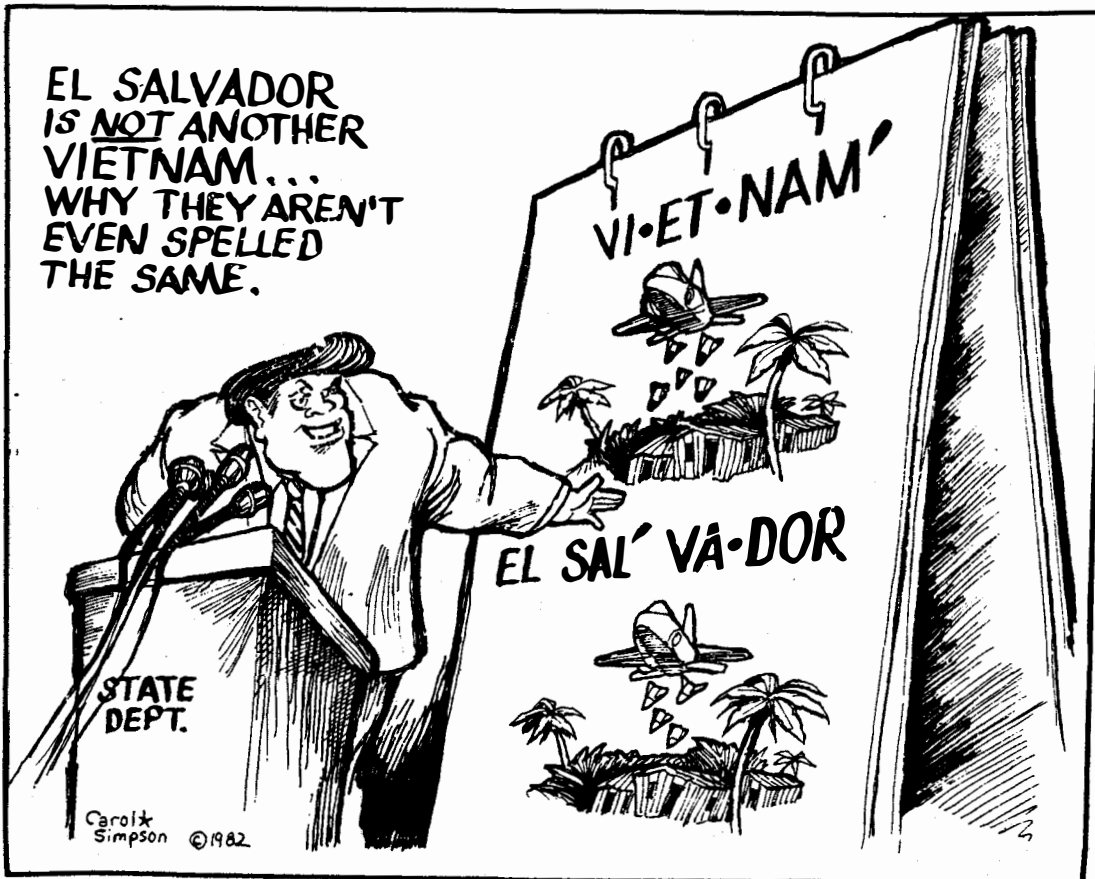
If the bright mood in the capital suggests that El Salvador is returning to the fold of civilized nations, it is a consummate deception; it is just that the war has moved from assassinations in the cities to indiscriminate bombing in the countryside... The strict rules about aerial bombardment (Duarte) introduced last September are scoffed at by the army high command and particularly by Gen. Juan Rafael Bustillo, the tough air force chief. That is the price Duarte has to pay to keep the loyalty of the armed forces and to stay in power.

In other words, all the most ghastly crimes perpetrated in Vietnam, Cambodia and Guatemala are being repeated in El Salvador. The supervisory criminals are ensconced in the Defense Department and the upper echelons of the Reagan Administration, fully cognizant of what their executors--Salvadorans working shoulder to shoulder with U.S. instructors--are doing on the ground or in the air, bombing, machine-gunning and massacring. All you need is a complicit or cowed press and a mendacious State Department and the American people need scarcely know that repeats of My Lai and Operation Speedy Express are taking place not far south of Miami and are sponsored by their government. The story has only got worse since a House Committee on Foreign Affairs report of 1981, which stated:

Current (U.S. military) assistance, however, is being used for purposes abominable to any concept of democracy or respect for human rights or dignity. It is granted on the false premise that the Duarte government represents a viable middle ground in Salvadoran political life and the civilian government is both willing and capable of controlling the baser instincts of the military whose arms maintain them in power.

--Alexander Cockburn

From *The Nation* June 1, 1985



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# Community News



## Peace and nonviolence will commemorate bombings

An invitation is being extended to you, your family and friends to join in the commemoration of the 40th Anniversary of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, August 6th thru 10th.

OUR GOAL IS TO UNITE IN A 5 DAY PRESENCE AT STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND HEADQUARTERS NEAR OMAHA, NEBRASKA (HOME OF THE JOINT STRATEGIC TARGET PLANNING STAFF).

There will not be a specific theme this year. We encourage you to be creative in your expressions of peace and non-violence. For those who wish to participate in, and/or support non-violent civil disobedience, there will be daily actions, "crossing the line," at approximately 3:30 p.m. Non-violence training will be provided by the Omaha group--the rest is up to you! Bring your songs, dances and love to SAC headquarters anytime during these 5 days.

### HOUSING

Mount Michael Abbey will be providing hospitality for us again this year. They will provide indoor sleeping space, including beds for those who need them, and camping facilities. No meals will be provided, but there will be some refrigeration space.

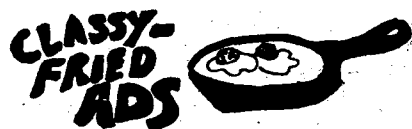
We feel there is a call for diversity and creativity at this year's commemoration. Remember, please, that we act in a non-violent manner, in a spirit of love and an expression of community.

Please accept our invitation. For more information, please contact one of the following communities:

Greenfields: (402)453-1547  
Mustard Seed: (402)422-0592

## Want a job?

The United Private Industry Council has introduced ten new programs in July. Aimed at helping the unemployed in four counties, including ours, the programs will provide on-the-job training, job search skills, and education. If you are poor and need work, call the UPIC office at 309-827-4026.



Women's rock band (as yet unnamed) needs guitar and keyboard players w/own equipment. Call Chris at 828-7314 or Kathy Jo at 829-2059 for information.

## Post-Amerikan's trash for cash a smash

This is a warm note of thanks for everyone who helped make the Great Post Amerikan Garage Sale Gala a triumphant event in the annals of garbage. We raised \$130.00 which will keep this trashy paper going for at least another week or two! But seriously, folks, it was a hit in spite of the difficulties posed by the weather---Friday we were completely rained out and a hailstorm on Sunday signaled the end of the sale. And while we appreciated every single donation of trash down to the ugliest jigsaw puzzle, we'd like to present a few honorary awards to the contributors of the most distinguished junk:

To Marita and Gil, for the most attractive trash, which the Post Garage Sale Staffers had to fight over. To Francis, for the most saleable item: a new battery-operated mini-T.V., which was purchased by the man who wanted to watch it in his car. (uh oh...) To Bill M., winner of the "What is it?" Award for the handy electric worm shocker and a couple of other things.

Thanks everybody!

--LVD

## Fellow traveller likes left

Post--

I really enjoy your far-left propaganda. I'd send more money but I've got an underground to run and I don't have much left over.

I hope our freedom to present an alternative view is never infringed upon.

--Dave

Creator of the  
Committee to Intervene Anywhere,  
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## Dwight prisoners suffer in county jails

Women inmates at Dwight prison for women are being sent to local county jails to serve the last one to three months of their sentences at a cost of \$35.00 per inmate per day, because of severe crowding at the state institution.

Construction of 100 new beds has recently been completed at Dwight, but this will not ease the crowding, according to prison officials. A one-year contract for the county jail beds expires in June, but it is expected to be renewed.

Ironically, Illinois' prisons for men now have more space than they need, and the IDOC has recently come under fire for exaggerating the crowding problem in 1984, in order to get money to build new prisons.

The John Howard Association, a prison reform group, has received complaints of forced sexual liaisons between the women and county employees, poor living conditions, interruptions in school and job training programs, and other problems. Assignment to county jails is involuntary; women who have objected have reportedly been punished by being locked in segregation.

Because county jails are organized as temporary holding facilities, they generally lack appropriate long-term programming for inmates. School and job training are minimal or non-existent, and physical movement is severely limited. Not one of the county jails now holding women has facilities for outdoor exercise or recreation. In an effort to partially rectify such problems, one county sheriff had the women prisoners go out and wash all the county-owned cars in the parking lot adjacent to his jail. Though it was no doubt welcome relief, this hardly replaces the kind of real, constructive training women should be receiving just prior to their release. "Truthfully," one woman writes, "they say Dwight tries to help us prepare for our release, but so far, they have made it very difficult."

All county jails in Illinois are regularly monitored by the IDOC Bureau of Inspections and Audits. The Bureau's most recent audits give the county jails in question an essentially clean bill of health. However, it seems clear that if county jails are to be used as a substitute for pre-release/work release centers, a serious effort must be made to provide pre-release counselling and other meaningful programs to the incarcerated women.

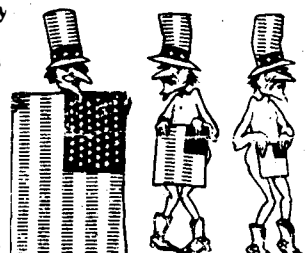
--from John Howard Assoc.  
Update, June/July 1985

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## Recall of Children's Tylenol

Johnson & Johnson Company has undertaken a voluntary recall of Liquid Children's Tylenol in 16 oz. and 4 oz. bottles. The recall is a result of the suspected presence of penicillin mold or candida yeast in the product.

During a spot check of McLean County retailers, several bottles containing the suspected lot numbers were removed from the shelves.

The presence of penicillin mold or candida yeast may cause a reaction in children allergic to the drug penicillin. Symptoms include: rash, fever, hives, swelling or other symptoms related to a penicillin allergy. If children are allergic to penicillin and these symptoms are present, a physician should be contacted.

## Drink beer! Make money! Save the earth!

Bimetal cans are now worth money to recyclers who bring them in to the Operation Recycle buyback. OR is now paying 5¢ lb. for the cans on Wednesday and Saturday mornings at its warehouse, 1100 W. Market.

The cans have an aluminum body and steel ends. Several kinds of soda are distributed locally in bimetal cans.

All soda and beer cans are now being bought at Operation Recycle. The price paid for aluminum cans has declined another cent and is now 15¢ lb. A further price reduction may occur in the near future.

The falling prices are due to an overcapacity in aluminum production and a market that has been flooded

by cheap foreign aluminum ingots. Even aluminum produced from scrap cans cannot compete with imports which are cheaper due to lower energy costs, government subsidization, and the high value of the American dollar.

Operation Recycle is still not accepting tin (food) cans. The non-profit volunteer supported community recycling center is seeking a way to get the tin cans to Indiana markets and cannot accept any more cans until the problem is solved.

OR also buys newspapers and container glass and accepts corrugated cardboard, office papers and grocery sacks for recycling.

ISN'T IT FUNNY HOW YOUNG PEOPLE LIVE THEIR LIVES WITH A CAREFREE ASSURANCE THAT LIFE IS THERE FOR THE TAKING WITH ALL OF ITS RICHNESS AND JOYS... NEVER KNOWING THAT IT COULD CHANGE TO AN UNFATHOMABLE HELL IN ONE SWIFT SHIFT OF **FATE??!!**

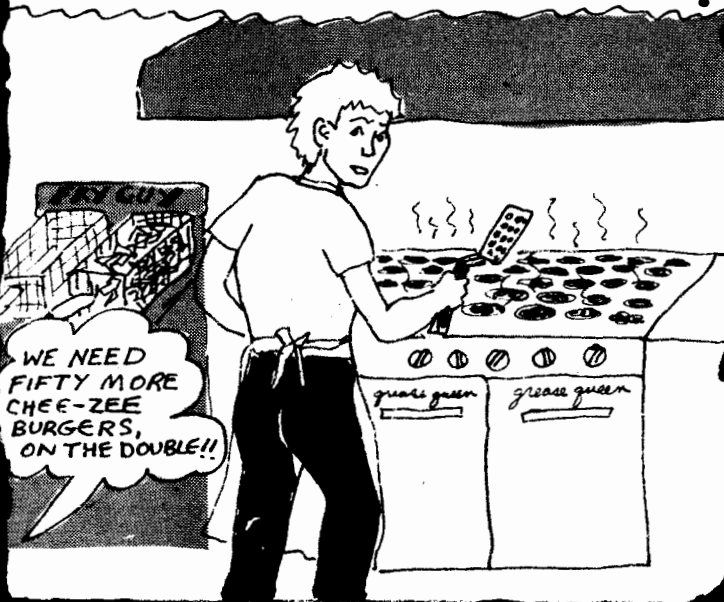
I, TOO, WAS ONCE A HAPPY-GO-LUCKY COLLEGE STUDENT WITH ALL THE PROMISES OF SUMMER BREAK BEFORE ME...

WHEN THE TRAGIC THE **UNBELIEVABLE** HAPPENED TO ME!!

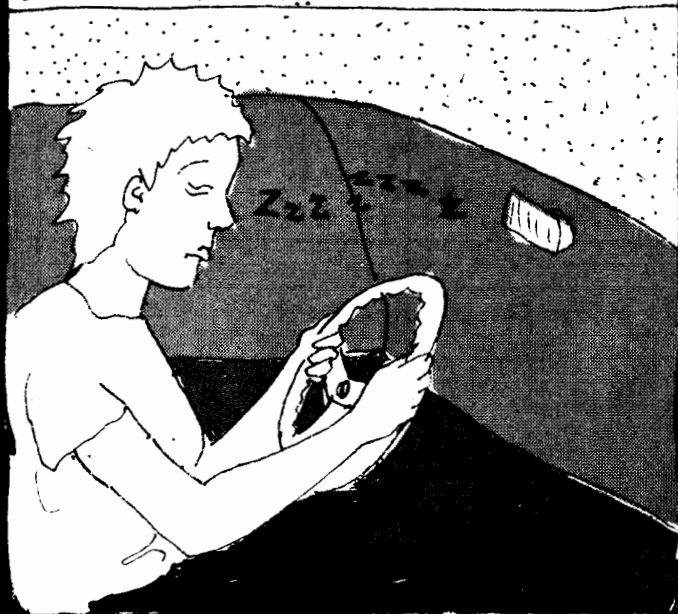
... I GOT A JOB!!

# TALES FROM THE 2ND SHIFT

IT ALL STARTED INNOCENTLY ENOUGH... I GOT A SUMMER JOB AT A FAST FOOD RESTAURANT... I SHOULD HAVE SENSED **IT** WHEN I STARTED WORKING... THOSE LONG HOURS OVERTIME... BUT I DIDN'T!



THEN ONE NIGHT, WHEN I WAS DRIVING HOME TO WORK, **IT** HAPPENED!! I MUST HAVE DOZED OFF FOR A MINUTE, BECAUSE WHEN I CAME TO, MY CAR WAS IN A DITCH!!



... I BRUSHED MYSELF OFF, THINKING HOW LUCKY I WAS TO BE UNINJURED, AND WALKED TO A NEARBY HOUSE TO PHONE A TOW TRUCK!! BUT I COULD TELL BY THEIR EXPRESSIONS THAT SOMETHING WAS DREADFULLY WRONG!! WHAT WAS IT??



AA-I-I-E-E-A!! SHE'S--SHE'S A WORKING STIFF!!



I REALIZED THEY WERE RIGHT!! I BELONGED TO THE RANKS OF THE LIVING DEAD! FROM THAT MOMENT ON, MY LIFE WAS CHANGED!! I STARTED ON A WILD, MINDLESS RAMPAGE OF THE LOCAL MALLS, BUYING EVERYTHING IN MY PATH—TERRORIZING SHOPKEEPERS WHO DIDN'T HAVE SOMETHING IN MY SIZE!! I SOON FOUND THAT THE ONLY THING WHICH KEPT ME GOING WERE FRESH, UNTOUCHED, FULL-FIGURED... **GREEN BACKS!!**



WELL, IT WAS A BITTER PILL TO SWALLOW AT FIRST... BUT ONCE I LEARNED TO ACCEPT BEING A MEMBER OF THE UNDEAD, I ACTUALLY CAME TO ENJOY THE LITTLE PLEASURES OF THE WAGE ZOMBIE—WATCHING RERUNS OF DUKES OF HAZZARD AFTER A HARD DAY WHILE GORGING MYSELF ON CHEETOS AND BUDWEISER... FUNNY HOW I NEVER NOTICED BEFORE, BUT I WAS NOT ALONE! THE WORLD IS FULL OF **WORKING STIFFS!** SOON, YOU MAY BE ONE, TOO! SEE YOU IN THE NETHER WORLD!!





# Vasectomy pays off

Our experience with vasectomy was so different from that of your writer that I'd like to share it with your readers. We chose vasectomy for reasons of cost and convenience. My wife was nursing our third child, and a tubal ligation would have involved an unwanted interruption of that vital relationship. The operation would be simpler and cheaper for me than for her.

I called Planned Parenthood and got the names of three urologists. Turned out I knew one of them personally ("a guy with 'German names'"). He is not, as your writers suggest, a "sexist asshole," but he does tend to express relationship ideas in terms of a bygone age. Your writer's description of him was unmistakable. It is a pity your writer was not able to get to know him well enough to overlook his coarseness and see his good heart. But I digress.

We chose a doctor on Franklin Avenue, partly because we didn't know him, partly because he seemed very nice, and partly because he only charged \$175 (the cost may have been a larger factor than I'd like to admit). It turned out to be worth every penny and quite a bit more. I shall refer to him as Dr. K.

Dr. K sat us down in his office and answered both our questions very frankly and openly. He did have a tendency to use medical jargon, but one expects a doctor to do that. I've never had an anatomy course and still didn't have any trouble following what he said. Then he took me into his examining room, checked me, and told me to shave a small area on the anterior scrotum. We set a date, and that was it. There was no mention of payment in advance.

One week later (I'd set a short date so as to have less time to chicken out) I checked into Brokaw as an outpatient. They were a little concerned that I'd walked to the hospital, but I assured them I'd call a cab to get home. Then they were concerned that I didn't have anyone there "with me," presumably to hold my hand, I guess. I was determined that the operation be no big deal, and told them so.

I had to take off everything including my wedding ring and my glasses (I do not like being without my glasses!) and put on one of those drafty gowns. I was a bit nervous, but reasoned that millions of other men had had the operation and seemed to get through it okay, so I would, too.

I do not enjoy shots and do not like drugs, but they are sometimes

necessary evils. The Demerol was intended to relax me--instead I had difficulty breathing. Oxygen was administered and the nausea relented. They cut some Valium into the IV. I chatted with the operating room people and with Dr. K. I was worried about the injection of local anesthesia into the scrotum, worried about the rough betadine scrub, and irrationally worried that he'd start cutting before the local had taken effect.

Dr. K has had a lot of experience and managed to accomplish all this with virtually no discomfort on my part. There was no dividing curtain which would have prevented me from watching, but I wasn't really interested. Someone carving on my private parts wasn't an image I wanted stored in my subconscious. I requested he show me the removed sections of vas deferens which he did. It was over surprisingly fast.

My problems were not over, however. One of the drugs caused an allergic reaction that resulted in five hours of "tachycardia," which means fast heart beat. I lay in outpatient recovery while my heart hammered away at 160 beats per minute. The EKG and

cardiologist added better than \$100 to the bill. I used to wonder why some doctors did minor surgery at hospitals. Now I know: Dr. K had no way of knowing I would react that way to the drugs. A small percentage of people just can't take certain drugs, and you can't always tell in advance who they'll be. (People who take drugs recreationally please note.)

I went home around three in the afternoon with an appointment to see the cardiologist on Monday. He checked me out and said that, now that we know about my lack of tolerance for drugs, steps could be taken to prevent a reaction should I ever need surgery again. It's something to keep in mind.

Everyone involved in this operation from the orderly to the cardiologist to the nurses and Dr. K went out of their way to be nice to me. I have only good things to say about their concern, their caring, their humanity. Whatever one might say about Brokaw Hospital as an institution, the people who work there are okay by me.

There was very little postoperative pain. I drove my 4-speed car that evening (albeit very gently) and mowed the lawn the next day. Yes, some pain, but my philosophy about pain is if you can stop it, fine, but if not, don't let it stop you. Just do whatcha do whatcha do.

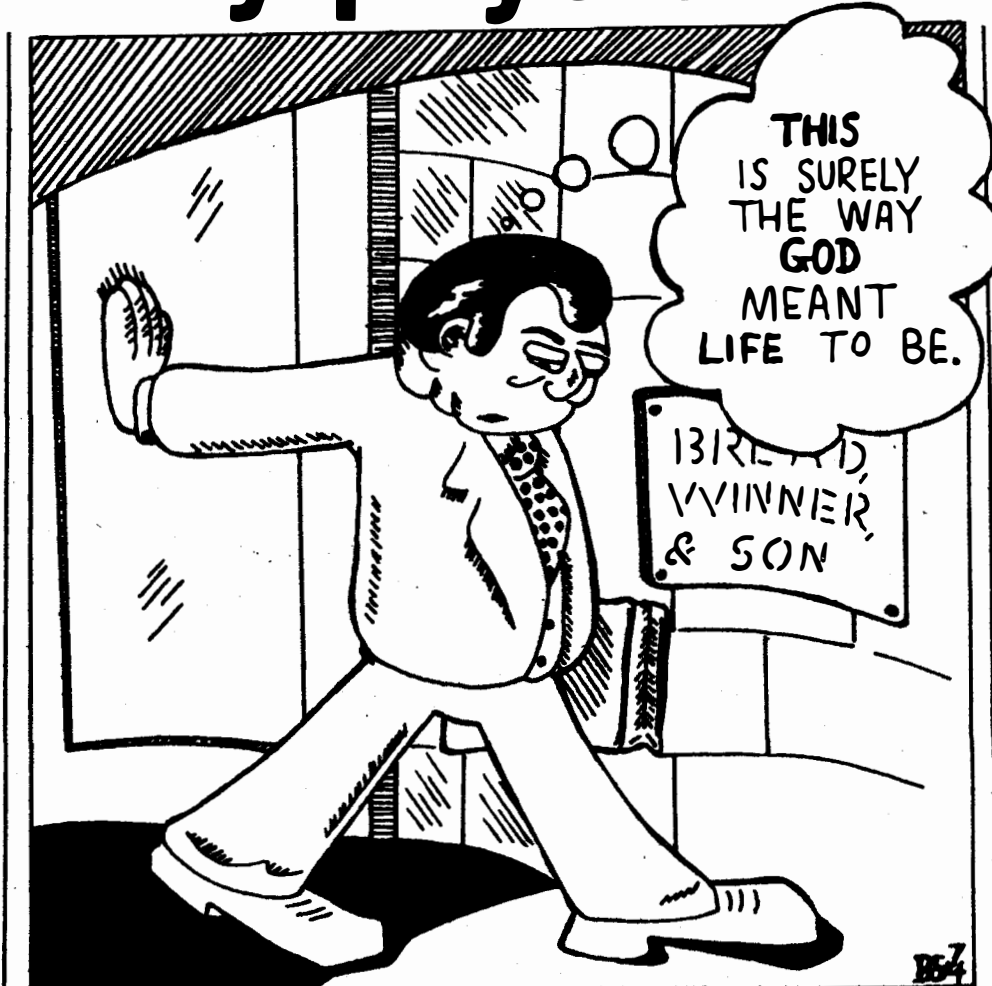
The most remarkable aspect of the operation is the effect it has on attitudes about sex. For years (I won't say how many years) I've worried about causing a pregnancy, and it introduces a subconscious hesitancy to a kind of relationship that depends on freedom and spontaneity. And my wife has not relished the thought of being pregnant. We have removed an unwanted element of risk from our sexuality and the result has been (blush) extremely positive.

Dr. K does not, alas, do vasectomies for people who do not have children, for unmarried people, or for people who are quite young. He was even hesitant to do the operation for us, suggesting that we might want to wait until our baby was a little older. I assured him that three children were quite enough, thank you.

Anyway, it is a pity his services are not available to couples who do not want children and/or do not wish to marry, as he is an excellent and compassionate doctor. But it is important to respect his right to be true to his own sincerely held ethics.

The total cost of the operation was around \$550. But the cost in money and the minor discomfort will be paying off for a long, long time. It was really worth it.

--V.R.T.



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# Abortion: A woman's point of view

Quite apart from blowing up clinics and terrorizing patients, the anti-abortion movement can take a credit for a more subtle and lasting kind of damage: It has succeeded in getting even pro-choice people to think of abortion as a "moral decision," an "agonizing decision" and related code phrases for something murky and compromising, like the traffic in infant formula mix.

In liberal circles, it has become un-stylish to discuss abortion without using words like "complex," "painful" and the rest of the mealy-mouthed vocabulary of evasion. Regrets are also fashionable, and one otherwise feminist author writes recently of mourning, each year following her abortion, the putative birthday of her discarded fetus.

I cannot speak for other women, of course, but the one regret I have about my abortions is that they cost money that might otherwise have been spent on something more pleasurable, like taking the kids to movies and theme parks.

Yes, that is abortions, plural (2 in my case)--a possibility that is not confined to the promiscuous, the disorderly or the ignorant. In fact, my credentials for dealing with the technology of contraception are first rate: I have a Ph.D. in biology that is now a bit obsolescent but still good for conjuring up vivid mental pictures of zygotes and ova, and I was actually paid, at one point in my life, to teach other women about the mysteries of reproductive biology.

Yet, as every party to the abortion debate should know, those methods of contraception that are truly safe are not absolutely reliable no matter how reliably they are used. Many women, like myself, have felt free to choose the safest methods because legal abortion is available as a backup to contraception. Anyone who finds that a thoughtless, immoral choice should speak to the orphans of women whose wombs were perforated by Dalkon shields or whose strokes were brought on by high-estrogen birth-control pills.

I refer you to the orphans only because it no longer seems to be good form to mention women themselves in discussions of abortion. In most of the anti-abortion literature I have seen, women are so invisible that an uninformed reader might conclude that fetuses reside in artificially warm tissue culture flasks or similar containers.

It must be enormously difficult for the anti-abortionists to face up to the fact that real fetuses can only survive inside women, who, unlike any kind of laboratory apparatus, have thoughts, feelings, aspirations,

responsibilities and, very often, checkbooks. Anyone who thinks for a moment about women's role in reproductive biology could never blithely recommend "adoption, not abortion," because women have to go through something unknown to fetuses or men, and that is pregnancy.

From the point of view of a fetus, pregnancy is no doubt a good deal. But, consider it for a moment from the point of view of the pregnant person (if "woman" is too incendiary and feminist a term) and without reference to its potential issue. We are talking about a 9-month bout of symptoms of varying severity, often including nausea, skin discolorations, extreme bloating and swelling, insomnia, narcolepsy, hair loss, varicose veins, hemorrhoids, indigestion and irreversible weight gain, and culminating in a physiological crisis which is occasionally fatal and almost always excruciatingly painful.

If men were equally at risk for this condition--if they knew that their bellies might swell as if they were suffering from end-stage cirrhosis, that they would have to go for nearly a year without a stiff drink, a cigarette or even an aspirin, that they would be subject to fainting spells and unable to fight their way onto commuter trains--then I am sure that pregnancy would be classified as a sexually transmitted disease and abortions would be no more controversial than emergency appendectomies.

Adding babies to the picture does not make it all that much prettier, even if you are, as I am, a fool for short, dimpled people with drool on their chins. For no matter how charming the outcome of pregnancy that is allowed to go to term, no one is likely to come forth and offer to finance its Pampers or pay its college tuition.

Nor are the opponents of abortion promising a guaranteed annual income, subsidized housing, national health insurance and other measures that might take some of the terror out of parenthood. We all seem to expect the individual parents to shoulder the entire burden of supporting any offspring that can be traced to them, and, in the all-too-common event that the father cannot be identified or has skipped town to avoid child-support payments, "parent" means mother.

When society does step in to help out a poor woman attempting to raise children on her own, all that it customarily has to offer is some govern-

ment surplus cheese, a monthly allowance so small it would barely keep a yuppie male in running shoes, and the contemptuous epithet "welfare cheat." It would be far more reasonable to honor the survivors of pregnancy at childbirth with at least the same respect and special benefits that we give, without a second thought, to veterans of foreign wars.

But, you will object, I have greatly exaggerated the discomforts of pregnancy and the hazards of child-bearing, which many women undergo quite cheerfully. This is true, at least to an extent. In my own case, the case of my planned and wanted pregnancies, I managed to interpret morning sickness as a sign of fetus tenacity and to find in the hypertrophy of my belly, a voluptuousness ordinarily unknown to the skinny.

But this only proves my point: A society that is able to make a good thing out of pregnancy is certainly free to choose how to regard abortion. We can treat it as a necessary adjunct to contraception, or as a vexing moral dilemma, or as a form of homicide--and whichever we chose, that is how we will tend to experience it.

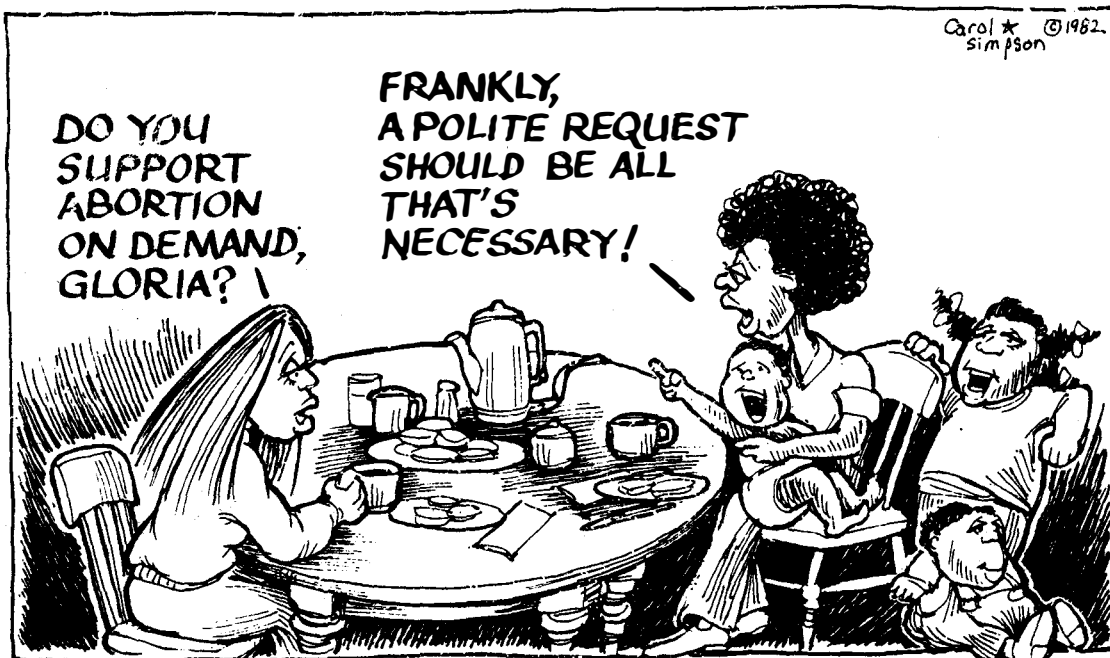
So I will admit that I might not have been so calm and determined about my abortions if I had to cross a picket line of earnest people yelling "baby killer," or if I felt that I might be blown to bits in the middle of a vacuum aspiration. Conversely, though, we would be hearing a lot less about ambivalence and regrets if there were not so much liberal head-scratching going on.

Abortions will surely continue, as they have through human history, whether we approve or disapprove or hem and haw. The question that worries me is: How is, say, a 16-year-old girl going to feel after an abortion? Like a convicted sex offender, a murderess on parole? Or like a young woman who is capable, as the guidance counselors say, of taking charge of her life?

This is our choice, for biology will never have an answer to that strange and cabalistic question of when a fetus becomes a person. Potential persons are lost every day as a result of miscarriage, contraception or someone's simple failure to respond to a friendly wink.

What we can answer, with a minimum of throat-clearing and moral agonizing, is the question of when women themselves will finally achieve full personhood: And that is when we have the right, unquestioned and unabrogated, to choose not to be pregnant when we decide not to be pregnant.

--Barbara Ehrenreich,  
from The New York Times



# ACLU joins gays in struggle for equality

The American Civil Liberties Union today announced plans to establish a new project aimed at ending discrimination against gay men and lesbians.

The Lesbian/Gay Rights Project, located in the ACLU's national office in New York, will begin by challenging state sodomy laws that criminalize homosexuality and attacking the various forms of discrimination that these criminal laws engender.

ACLU Executive Director Ira Glasser and ACLU President Norman Dorsen said that with the creation of the project the ACLU would be able to take a more aggressive and visible role in fighting for equal rights for gays and lesbians.

"Gay men and lesbians confront laws and government practices that would long ago have been struck down as unconstitutional if they applied to racial minorities or women," Glasser said. "Laws in twenty-four states and the District of Columbia that outlaw consensual sodomy are used as the legal justification for various forms of discrimination, and force gay men and lesbians to choose between suffering second class citizenship or keeping their sexual orientation a secret from

the world."

"As long as civil rights for gays and lesbians remain a gay people's issue alone, it will be too easy for gays to be isolated in their struggle to secure equality," Dorsen added. "Antiquated sodomy laws restrict the civil rights and liberties of many Americans, and permitting such discrimination to continue threatens the civil rights of all Americans."

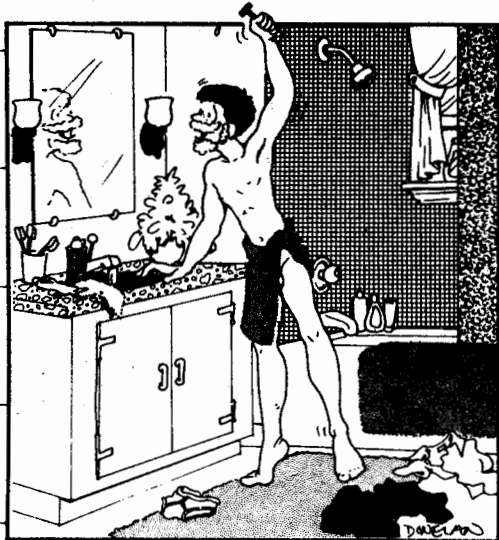
## ERADICATION OF SODOMY LAWS

The first priority of the ACLU Lesbian/Gay Rights Project will be the eradication of sodomy laws. Sodomy laws are used as the legal basis for police harassment of gay men, and to justify differential treatment of lesbians as well as gay men in housing, employment, and domestic relations (e.g. child custody) cases. Even where sodomy laws are not vigorously enforced, their mere existence defines gay relationships as a crime, perpetuating common myths and stereotypes about gay men and lesbians, and inhibiting gay people from living openly.

The ACLU, with the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, has already filed a legal challenge to the Louisiana sodomy law. The ACLU is now exploring the possibility of bringing similar challenges in Arkansas and Minnesota.

The gay rights project will also target discrimination against gay men and lesbians in housing and employment--with emphasis on education and the uniformed municipal services (police, firefighters, etc.). In addition, the project will pursue several cases in which local laws interfere with gay peoples' First Amendment rights, including laws barring gay teachers from "advocating" homosexuality in the classroom.

--from Civil Liberties,  
Spring 1985



OK...YOU'RE GAY. DO YOU HAVE TO ANNOUNCE IT TO THE WORLD?...YES!

## TV (Gay) Guide

While crime may be dominating prime-time television, so-called "crimes against nature" are on the upswing too. In the upcoming fall season, each of the major networks has at least one series with a regular gay character.

On NBC, "The Golden Girls" stars Bea Arthur and Betty White in a comedy series about four older women who live and play in Miami, assisted by a gay houseman. CBS contributes its gay character in "Hometown," an hour-long series, debuting in August. It is based on "The Big Chill" (a movie that should have had a gay character). ABC's answer to "Miami Vice"--"Hollywood Beat"--will feature John Matuszak, former linebacker for the Oakland Raiders, as the gay owner of a coffee shop.

On cable, a pilot for "First Intent," a sitcom set to start up in August, includes a plotline in which the owner of a football team is caught by his wife in bed with the tight end. A spokesperson for the Alliance for Gay and Lesbian Artists reports that the pilot turns into a "nasty little show" as the wife threatens to reveal her husband's sexual interests unless he signs over to her the ownership of the team. This is a sitcom?

If you're CBS, how do you one-up ABC's successful "Consenting Adult"?

How about a gay story between a minor and a consenting adult? CBS's "Welcome Back Bobby," a made-for-tv movie in post-production and slated for the '85-'86 season, opens with 15-year-old Bobby returning home after a summer love affair with a gay guy in his 30s. Bobby's dad thought his son was away at a summer job in the city. When Dad finds out the truth, the fireworks start. Bobby, by the way, is also on the swim team.

If you've lost interest in the painfully slow unfolding of the gay romance on "Dynasty," or you think Steven's lover, Luke, will be one of the fatalities in the season-ending shoot-out, you may want to switch to the daytime soap "Santa Barbara," for the gay situation that recently cropped up on that NBC show. Wonder how long this one will last?

Finally, it's goodbye to "Sara," the likable Wednesday-night series that had a gay character. It has been withdrawn from NBC's fall line-up. And so it goes. Happy viewing.

--Thanx to Steve Holley of  
The Advocate, June 11,  
1985, issue; with  
editorial fiddling by  
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# Pantagraph "misses" the mark

On Tuesday, July 2, Pantagraph readers were treated to a 20-inch article--complete with a 14-inch photo--on page 5 of the front section on the women's role in the LeRoy emergency squad. The squad is made up of 36 volunteers, 12 of whom are women. They do everything the male squad members do, and then some.

We, the readership, were not informed as to what the tasks of the women were, except in very vague terms. We know they drive ambulances and rescue vehicles, they are emergency medical technicians, and they comfort people. I'm sure there is a lot more to their jobs than that, but I have no idea what it is.

I have no idea because the article focused on how different it is for girls to do boys' work.

You think I'm making that up. Okay, the article opened with a touching story about how stupid women are. Once one of the women ran out of the house so fast she forgot to turn off the potatoes and eggs she had boiling on the stove. Not only could she have set her own house on fire if she hadn't thought to call the police and have them turn off the stove, but her family didn't have potato salad for dinner that night. Boy was her face red.

It is an amusing anecdote. I'm sure it is one of the woman's favorites about herself. It is not appropriate for the opening 6 paragraphs in an article headed "Women's Role Integral to Emergency Squads."

Paragraph 6 goes on to say that no one remembers what the emergency was, but (and I quote Melinda DeVries, the writer of the article) "the case can be singled out as just one of the predicaments women get themselves into as members of a small-town volunteer emergency team."

Although we do not get to hear about other predicaments, the sentence leads

us to believe that there are plenty of others. The women in LeRoy must do stupid things every day just to go help hurt strangers. But what can you do? You have to take what you can get. And that means you have to take women who get themselves into predicaments. "That appears to be the trend in most small towns," DeVries tells us, "where volunteers are few and men are unavailable during daytime hours to serve on the volunteer squad." DeVries says that the people in LeRoy "have accepted women as part of the rescue team." But then what choice do



they have? If girls are all you can get, you get girls, predicaments and all.

DeVries seems fascinated with the shifts the women work--12 hours a day--and that sometimes women pull night shifts. "Sometimes that means getting called out of bed, and that could be disastrous for women who don't like to go out of the house without their makeup on or their hair combed."

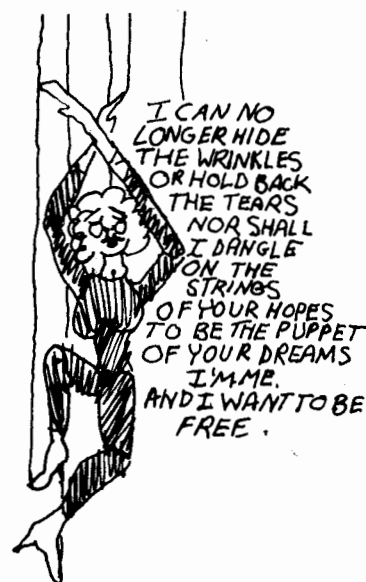
Disastrous? We're talking here about women who scrape up the pieces of what used to be a person from the concrete of I-55, who take the charred remains of humanity from burning buildings, who pick up the limp, lifeless forms of somebody's grandma who has just had a heart attack or stroke, who handle the mangled remains of a little boy caught in farm machinery. And what is disastrous? The fact that the women rescue workers don't stop to use the 27 products Madison Avenue tells

us she should use. Disastrous? Gimme a break.

Ol' DeVries does concede that "the sick people they cater to don't care if the squad members are wearing makeup and have every hair in place" and that "some of the squad's patients . . . are on the verge of death." But I bet, even on the verge of death, DeVries would care.

In the last paragraph and a half of the article, DeVries gets to what should have been one of the main focuses--what the women themselves see as the most difficult obstacle: dealing with a call from a friend or someone they know. Especially in a small town, that is an issue. If you know almost everyone in town, the call is likely to be at least an acquaintance. It is a real problem. Though not as real, according to DeVries, as depriving your family of potato salad or going out without makeup.

Perhaps the article offended me more than it should have because I do crisis



intervention. Have done it for over 11 years. I've run out of the house with my shirt on wrong-side-out, with one black sock and one brown sock on. I've gone dressed to the teeth directly from dinner or a play. And nobody has ever cared what I looked like. Ever.

People in crisis care only that you are there, that you want to help them when they need help. Maybe DeVries should talk to both the people who work at and the people who have been helped by Project Oz, the Rape Crisis Center, the CHS crisis team, and other agencies in town who do crisis intervention. If she can't believe that dying people don't care what their crisis workers look like, perhaps she would believe that runaways, rape victims, and suicides don't care either. That nobody cares. Except DeVries. But I doubt it.

Either DeVries or the Pantagraph editorial staff or both should have taken a good, hard look at her article before they decided to run it and anger and demean the women rescue workers in LeRoy, crisis workers everywhere, and women in general. But that's obviously too much to ask. And besides, they did ask a woman's opinion. They asked DeVries.

--Deborah Wiatt

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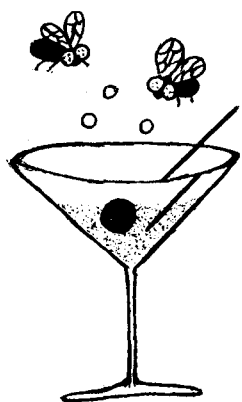
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# The Underground Barfly



Hey, fellow scene makers! If you enjoy exploring the hot night spots from the sleazy to the swanky, trendy to trashy, funky to flashy--then this column is for you! Each month in the Post Amerikan we'll review two of the many bars in Bloomington-Normal in search of a perfect night on the town. Of course, your criteria might differ from ours, but we'll be looking at such things as ambiance, service, prices, parking, bathrooms and diversions. So hey, dudes and dude-esses, it's party time!

## The Cave

### 1508 N. Main St., Bloomington

The Cave Lounge, tucked away below Variety Liquors, is one of those places that you might never venture into by chance. This bar came highly recommended to us by friends who claim that it's a good place to meet friends for drinks and conversation--perfect for a discreet rendezvous or a great neutral ground for those discussions about "the relationship." It's the type of neighborhood bar which features cheap drinks (40, 50, and 60 cent drafts and regular happy hour specials) in a clean environment where weirdos won't bother you. They also serve pizza and sandwiches, and have a few games (bowling machine, pinball and video games).

## Going spelunking

The regular crowd of Cave dwellers appears to be a diverse mixture of white and blue collars who gather around the small bar for an after-work drink (or two, or five) and a few laughs (very loud laughs, but more on that later). They casually observe outsiders, but are not a snobbish bunch. Pull up a barstool and you, too, will soon feel welcome to join the lively discussions of Cub scores and pseudo-sexual banter. The women's bathroom is a clean, well-stocked two-seater with little privacy, but the grafitti is enough to take your mind off all but the most pressing of life's problems.

However, our expedition to the Cave also uncovered some glaring faults, which are mostly created by the physical surroundings. As its name implies, The Cave is a dim, dank, subterranean room with cold, stucco-covered walls, low ceilings and no windows. This makes the place very loud. The acoustics are such that the barmaid's chuckle becomes a cacophonous chorus of cackles, which is constantly accompanied by the earsplitting din of clanking bottles and glasses. This noise, coupled with an over-active air conditioner, was enough to drive us shivering back out to the sunlight, to Life on the Outside.

## The Galery 111 E. Beaufort, Normal

The Galery presents some striking contrasts with The Cave (not the least of which is the change in temperature from chilly to stifling) but a comparison hardly seems necessary because the two establishments are in different classes. While the Cave is a chummy neighborhood bar, The Galery is a real college hangout, where the clientele can change every night. One of this bar's strongest points is that its crowd is so diverse almost anyone could find his or her niche there without fear of A) ridicule, B) danger, or C) sharks. Oh, what a comfort it is to know that this type of solace awaits you after having walked past the line of Philistines outside of Rocky's, who (depending upon your appearance) are fond of calling out: A) "Hey Baybuh!", B) "Fag!", or C) "Get a haircut!"

Anyway, The Galery has a friendly atmosphere which is contributed to by waitresses and barpersons who are pleasant and hardworking in spite of the lousy tips. (They have our admiration.) Besides the delightful ambiance at The Galery, its main attraction is the live music featured regularly. The Galery undoubtedly presents the best variety of bands

## mini-review

### the Cave

YY

It's cold and loud, but clean and safe.

### the Galery

YYYY

It's awfully hot, but so is the live music.

YYYYY

pure alpha

YYY

some fun

YYYY

groovy

YY

so-so

Y

yucky

in the area--where else can you go to hear jazz, folk, country, blues, punk, pop, rock, or heavy metal five nights a week? The quality of the bands ranges from fabulous to awful, but credit owner Spike for providing a stage for local talent. And cover charges are reasonable--usually \$2 for a weekend night, less during the week. Sometimes they even book nationally known "cult" bands (Shockabilly, Fred Frith, etc.), and then the cover is a little higher. There's a small dance floor (which, incidentally, has been known to spawn knee injuries). Acoustics are not bad, and best of all, if band is too loud or too lousy, you can always retreat to the downstairs bar, which in itself is a nice place to go for conversation and drinks. We've heard complaints, but we think the pizza is good. Drink prices are on the steep side (\$1.25 for bottles of beer). There are also three pool tables with plenty of room around them downstairs, and one pool table upstairs, as well as a few video games.

## Temperature soars

Sounds like this is the best place in town to go for live music, eh? Well, don't get too excited--there are a couple of really annoying problems with The Galery. The club upstairs is quite small and a good band on the weekend will have the place jam-packed by 10:30. And in the summer months, those dancing, sweating bodies make the already stiflingly hot room intolerable. Hot is not the word for it. It's downright unhealthy. If the temperature were attended to, this club would be really nice. And just how much can it cost for some system of ventilation? Maybe a fundraiser is in order "for the benefit of Mr. Spike."

--Stella and Blanche

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